



The Antiquary.



MARCH, 1888.

Antiquarian Memories.

By WILLIAM BRAILSFORD.*

AN the *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series*, time James I., there is a warrant, dated March 30, 1608, to pay the expenses of taking down the King's house at Enfield, and conveying the materials to be used in the intended buildings at Theobald's. The greater part of this structure was in consequence removed. Of the portion that remains one room on the ground-floor may be still seen in its original state. The walls are panelled in dark oak, and the ceiling is adorned with pendant devices consisting of the crown, Tudor rose, and the fleur-de-lis. The chimney-piece is a remarkably fine example of freestone work. There are four columns daintily carved over the mantel. In the centre are the arms of England and France quarterly with the garter and the royal supporters, a lion and dragon. Beneath, on a tablet, is the motto, "Sola salus servire Deo: sunt caetera fraudes." On either side, in separate compartments, are the rose and portcullis, each crowned, whilst on either hand of the motto are the letters E. and R. A number of handsome ornaments, mostly of birds and foliage, are carved above and beneath the entire structure. Over one of the entrance doors is a part of another chimney-piece. This is ornamented with heraldic shields, and the rose and portcullis with scroll work, and the following motto beneath: "Ut ros super herbam, est benevolentia regis." There are some other rooms on the upper floor whose ceilings have pendant ornaments similar to those above de-

* Being the third contribution to the Series of Reminiscences by Antiquaries.—ED.

scribed. A door with sixteenth-century hinges, and made in a fashion unknown to the workers in wood in these latter days, leads from a passage beyond direct to the palace garden, where stands one of the noblest specimens of the cedars of Lebanon to be seen in this country. This tree was planted by Dr. Robert Uvedale, to whom the palace was let in the year 1660, and who was master of the Grammar School. In 1823 the girth of this magnificent tree was nineteen inches close to the ground, but it has materially increased since that date. The branches are of great extent, and wave over against the window of the ancient room. Here Queen Elizabeth passed many of her earlier and happier days. The Manor of Enfield was settled on her, when Princess, in 1552, by her brother, Edward VI.* Weever, in his *Ancient Funeral Monuments*, speaks of five princely houses inheritable to the English Crown, the first mentioned being Enfield.† In April, 1557, "the Princess was escorted from Hatfield Hall to Enfield Chase, by a retinue of twelve ladies, in white satin, on ambling palfries, and twenty yeoman in green on horseback, that her Grace might hunt the hart. On entering the Chase she was met by fifty archers in scarlet boots and yellow caps, armed with gilded bows, each of whom presented her with a silver-headed arrow, winged with peacock's feathers; and, by the way of closing the sport, the Princess was gratified with the privilege of cutting the throat of a buck."‡ It was from Enfield that Edward VI. was conducted to the Tower on his accession to the throne in 1546, by the Earl of Hertford. In the early part of the present century the Manor House and grounds were leased to Dr. May, who had formerly held the office of assistant to Mr. Clarke, the proprietor of the school at which Keats the poet was taught the rudiments of classical learning. Dr. May kept a very extensive school, and the fine remnant of older days, with its Elizabethan oak panels and grandly sculptured chimney-piece, was used as the dining-room of the many scholars. Being one of the number, my taste for archaeology developed imperceptibly. Many traditions

* Vallance, in his tale of *Two Swannes*, says: "Enfield House yt longs unto our queene."

† See Weever, A.D. 1631, p. 703.

‡ Nichol's *Elizabeth's Progresses*.

of illustrious proceedings and state ceremonies were current as having occurred in this fine room. In the market-town adjoining there stood several houses built in the architecture of the Tudor period; one of these was declared to have been the home of the unfortunate favourite, the Earl of Essex. Near it was the market-place, a building long since destroyed. Some two or three miles further on, in the direction of Cheshunt, a residence surrounded by fine forest trees was celebrated as White Webbs. It was a very secluded property, and in it Henry Garnet, Prefect of the Jesuits, concocted the conspiracy known as the Gunpowder Plot. Here, amid much coming and going of intriguing men and women, Catesby mixed in the designs which boded evil to the fortunes of King James I. In the parish church of St. Andrew many monuments have been erected from the early part of the fifteenth century downwards. Of these, an altar tomb, having upon it the brass effigy of Joyce, Lady Tiptoft, a daughter of Lord Powis, was by much the most remarkable. It is fixed on a slab of gray marble. The lady, who died in 1446, is dressed in the rich costume of the period, her mantle being adorned on either side with heraldic devices. A triple canopy covers her head, while round the side is a Latin inscription strangely interspersed with representations of birds, fishes, and other quaint emblems. The tomb itself is arched over by a stone canopy, having a border of oak leaves on its apex, together with a helmet, etc. This is the monument of the Roos family, who were related to Lady Joyce.*

Excursions to the forest of Epping were frequently made, and either going or returning Waltham Cross and Waltham Abbey were seen. Restoration and renovation were then terms almost unknown, consequently the cross and the abbey were both untainted by sharp features of recent chiselling, and exhibited in a high degree all the appearance of antiquity. The cross was, it is true, uncomfortably placed at an angle of the road, and close to a large hostelry. The cross was the last erected by King Edward I. to the memory of Queen Eleanor, prior to the final halt at

* Philippa, the eldest daughter of Sir John and Lady Tiptoft, married Thomas, Lord Roos. The son of the latter died at Enfield and was buried in the vault under the tomb, sometime in 1508.

Charing Cross.* All that remains of Waltham Abbey is interesting, not only for its architectural features, but for its connection with royal Harold. It stands in a flat country. A tomb was formerly shown as that of the Anglo-Saxon King. It was said to have this inscription, "Hic jacet Harold infelix." No search for this memorial in the years 1825 to 1828 proved fruitful in discovery.† There is only a portion of the original tower *in situ*. Inside are some massive columns with semi-circular arches of pure Norman work. Two of the pillars or columns resemble those in Durham Cathedral, the ornamentation consisting of indented zigzags. Of the sepulchral memorials, one merits attention in an historical sense, being that devoted to Sir Edward Denny, Knight, who had a residence in the neighbourhood. At some distance from Waltham were the ruins of the gateway to Nether Hall, a mansion demolished in the year 1773.‡ This entrance had two half-hexagon towers on each side. On and around these were many devices, such as the bear and rugged staff, griffins, roses, eagles, lions, and fleurs-de-lis. The chimneys, such as remained, were twisted in the manner peculiar to the fifteenth century. The ruin was too unsafe for even an adventurous schoolboy to climb.

Longer excursions ended at the town of St. Albans, where a large number of antiquities greeted the budding archæologist. On approaching the scattered houses there was to be seen, on the wayside, remains of the old Roman wall, over and about which all kinds of wild creepers and plants were intertwined. Before proceeding onward, the ruins of Sopwell Nunnery, or rather Sopwell House, lie half a mile from the main road. Formerly a conventional establishment, Henry VIII., at the Dissolution, granted the site to Sir Richard Lee, who built a mansion near the nunnery. This, in its turn, was pulled down, and ten circular medallions taken out of it were carried to Salisbury Hall, in the neighbouring parish of Shen-

* At the present date, 1888, the cross is undergoing some process of repair.

† Morant says that "the last account we have of it is, that it was at Waltham Mill, and seen there by Dr. Uvedale, of Enfield."

‡ Nether Hall is near the meeting of the rivers Stort and Lea. The manor was formerly held of Waltham Abbey.

ley, where they were placed on the inner wall of the mansion.* Then comes the magnificent abbey, or, as it is now designated, cathedral. This building has undergone many mutations. As late as sixty years ago a part of one of the walls gave way, and the enthusiasm of the county was excited to preserve the fabric from destruction. Since that time other and further symptoms of decay have manifested themselves, and now, bit by bit, the entire structure is undergoing—what shall we call it?—renewal. So much has been said, so much has been written concerning the beauty of the many architectural details, and the grandeur and nobleness of St. Albans Abbey, that to recapitulate them here would be, indeed, a work of supererogation. Suffice it to speak of the venerable building as one of the chief ornaments of the land. Its interior is full of rare and exquisite work. Foremost of this may be cited the altar or Wallingford screen, erected by the thirty-sixth abbot; then the very elaborate and delicate designs of the chantry tomb of Abbot Ramryge, who began to rule in 1492. On this tomb is one of the finest ecclesiastical brasses yet remaining in this country. The ceilings, particularly those in the transepts, with the sacred monogram, and the Lady Chapel, with its many marked objects of interest, were all to be remembered. Youthful students took, in my time, an exceptional notice of the tomb and actual remains in a coffin or chest of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. There was a crucifixion painted on the wall, and a scroll, on which was written, "Blessed Lord, have mercy on mee." In the second part of Shakespeare's historical play of Henry VI, the Earl of Salisbury says:

I never saw but Humphrey, Duke of Gloster,
Did bear him like a noble gentleman;
and also, still discoursing to other noble lords:

And as we may cherish Duke Humphrey's deeds,
While they do tend the profit of the land.

The first scene of the second act of this play is laid, as all will recollect, at St. Albans, and is noticeable for the entry before the King of the Mayor with his brethren, and Simpcox, an impostor, who pretends to have been

* The busts of ten Roman Emperors were on these medallions, and were to be seen as heretofore in 1884. The Hall is a kind of moated grange. There was a legend, connected with one of the hair-breadth escapes of Charles II., attaching to the locality.

blind, and to have received his sight "at St. Alban's shrine within this half-hour." The last scene of the third act is laid at fields near St. Albans, where Warwick, after a flourish of trumpets, proclaims:

"Twas a glorious day;
Saint Albans' battle, won by famous York,
Shall be eternized in all age to come—
Sound drums and trumpets—and to London all:
And more such days as these to us befall.

In the park at Görhambury the ruins of "Lord Bacon's house" were always a point of youthful enthusiasm, and the statue of the philosopher in the little church of St. Michael's served for many a pilgrimage for strangers who had not previously seen it.

A residence in later life at Tunbridge Wells gave pleasant opportunities for many antiquarian rambles. The Wells themselves, with the promenade between the trees on the one side, and the shops full of Tunbridge ware on the other, were at all times agreeable places of resort.* This was then known as the Pantiles; and it was the fashion for all who loved music "to take the air," walking on the ample pavement and listening to the strains of a band which found a favourable position in an elevated alcove, and which entered upon its duties twice a day—afternoon and evening. Here Charles II. and his Queen, Catharine of Braganza, with their Court came in 1664, and gave *éclat* to the daily parade. Here, too, came the Duke and Duchess of York in 1670, with their daughters, the Princesses Mary and Anne. The latter princess visited it later on, with her son, the youthful Duke of Gloucester. The places around the Wells are all of extreme interest. The ruins of Bayham Abbey in the village of Frant are all that is left of a society of white canons, called Premonstratensians, founded by Ela de Sackville, in honour of St. Marie, in the reign of Richard I. In another direction is Withyam, where the Sackville Chapel, connected with the church, contains fine monuments of the Dorset family. A tower stood near the church, the only remaining portion of the grand mansion of the Sackvilles; farther on, the ruins of Brambletye, a manor of the Audehames; but the

* This sketch refers to upwards of sixty years since, when the Calverley, Mount Ephraim and other hotels were unthought of and hardly a newly-built tenement existed.

house was built by Sir Henry Compton in the reign of James I. The house was attacked by the Puritan party in the Civil Wars, and by them demolished. All that remained to be seen when I went there was a turret and some square walls. Over one of the entrances (still left) were the arms of the Comptons impaled with the Brownes. After leaving these ruins, the day's excursion culminated at East Grinstead, where, close to the road, stood Sackville College or Alms-house, founded by Robert, the second Earl of Dorset, in the reign of James I. In the interior of this edifice were many picturesque items, and the general façade towards the king's highway formed a special and prominent feature in the landscape. In an altogether opposite direction were the ruins of the archiepiscopal Palace at Mayfield. Although St. Dunstan was credited as the builder of this edifice, no part of it appeared to be older than the fourteenth century. Three arches, which had once supported the roof of the banqueting-hall up to the end of the eighteenth century, were the principal architectural objects in my time. This noble apartment was 70 feet long and 39 feet wide. One room, then habitable, was shown as Queen Elizabeth's; and in another the sword, anvil, and hammer, and the terrible tongs of St. Dunstan, were wont to be exhibited. An iron chimney-back had the date 1663 upon it.* And somewhere round the palace was the deep well of St. Dunstan. Some armorial bearings on a door were too obliterated to be distinguished as the arms of Sir Thomas Gresham, who once possessed this house. Not far from the church, which was dedicated to St. Dunstan, was a timbered house, having upon it the year 1575. All kinds of legends were attached to the village as relating to St. Dunstan, who was evidently its tutelar saint.†

But first and foremost of all the castles or abbeys deserving to be visited was Penshurst

* I believe I am correct in stating that the ruins of Mayfield have been wholly or partially restored, and that it is now converted into a Roman Catholic nunnery.

† One tale went to the effect, that after the Saint had clutched the tempter's nose with his tongs, the devil plunged the heated nostril in a spring, and thus produced the chalybeate property of the Wells at Tunbridge.

Place, the birthplace of Sir Philip Sidney; and more than one or two excursions were made by me from the Wells. It had been a seat of the Penchester family, afterwards going to the Bohuns, Fanes, etc., ultimately given to Sir William Sidney by King Edward VI. This knight had been Chamberlain to the King before his accession, and was much respected by the young monarch. He had a son, Sir Henry, who died in 1586. The latter was the father of the great and good Philip, with whose memory every nook and corner in Penshurst Place is associated. There was, indeed, much to see in the fine remnant of mediæval history. The baronial hall of the time of Edward III. was unique in its magnificent proportions, with the original oak dining-tables and the dog-irons; then the screen at the end, supporting the minstrels' gallery, with the various parts of body-armour, helmets, pikes, and banners. In the ballroom hung two glass chandeliers which were given by Queen Elizabeth to the great Earl of Leicester. Numbers of family portraits had conspicuous positions in the different rooms. A rare and very curious painting was that of the two brothers, Sir Philip and Robert Sidney, taken when young lads, and standing arm-in-arm, in doublet, collar and trunk hose. Amid a multitude of historical faces by Holbein, Jansen, Garrard, and others, one had the greatest favour for me. It was the portrait of Mary Countess of Pembroke,* whose epitaph, written by Ben Jonson, has always seemed the perfection of elegiac verse :

Underneath this sable hearse
Lies the subject of all verse,
Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother.
Death! ere thou hast slain another
Fair and wise, and good as she,
Time shall throw a dart at thee.

For the antiquary there were many veritable treasures carefully preserved, such as MS. and books containing the household expenses, diaries, and inventories of the former owners of this historical abode. In my time the leaders of the restoration craze

* I was, happily, destined to see this picture very long after my visit to Penshurst. It was exhibited in 1866 at the first collection of National Portraits by its noble owner, Lord de Lisle. In the catalogue it is described as half-length, close falling ruff, large cuffs, black dress.

had not penetrated into the quiet village, so that mansion and church were not modernized in any way. The church had many monuments, and there was very distinctly in my recollection a brass cross fixed on a stone in the pavement which had somehow or other strayed from Hever Church, where it really belonged to a memorial of the Boleyn family, as I ascertained by seeing the depression which had held the cross in the church at Hever. The entrance to Penshurst churchyard was underneath a brick and timber house of the time of the fifteenth century, and there used to be, and maybe is still, an inscription on the gate. The park belonging to Penshurst Place was noted for an avenue and for many stately trees. A group of these was named "Lady Gamage's Bower," called so after Barbara Gamage, Countess of Leicester. A very ancient oak-tree, perfectly hollow and capable of holding several people, was one of the attractions certain to be sought for. The poet Waller, in addressing my Lord of Leicester, says :

Not that thy trees at Penshurst groan,
Oppressed with their timely load,
And seem to make their silent moan
That their great Lord is now abroad.
They to delight his taste or eye
Would spend themselves in fruit, and die.

The Lady Dorothea, poetically named Saccharissa, was the eldest daughter of Robert Sidney, Earl of Leicester, and was therefore a descendant of Philip Sidney. It is surmised that she viewed Waller's love with scorn when he saw her at Penshurst.* Waller has one other poem entitled "At Penshurst," in which he speaks of "the lofty beeches" and "the garden of a wood."

There was another historical castle often visited from my home at "the Wells," and that was Hever, which stood in a very secluded situation and was surrounded by a moat, the water of which was supplied by the river Eden. The gateway presented a fine defensive appearance, with the customary embrasures and machicolation. The portcullis was then in a perfect state. From a large quadrangle the great hall and a long

* She was married at Penshurst in 1639 to Henry, Lord Spencer, created Earl of Sunderland. Two portraits of her were shown at the exhibition of National Portraits in 1866 from Lord de Lisle's collection, and one came from the Earl of Spencer's gallery, and another from the Earl of Bradford's.

gallery with its original oak-panels was approached. As the abode of Queen Anne Boleyn, a kind of romance was attached to this isolated spot, tradition asserting that from one of the windows the Lady Anne used to listen for the signal from the lover-king, given as he traversed the hill and came in sight of her abode. Correspondence between Henry and the ill-fated lady occurred at Hever. In one of the rooms a portrait existed of Anne which exhibited signs of careful preservation. The church had a noble memorial of Sir Thomas Boleyn—an altar-tomb having an effigy in brass inlaid upon it, representing him as first Earl of Wiltshire. He is habited in the dress of a Knight of the Garter, and the date, 1538, is inscribed with the legend reversed.* Leaving Hever, with its castle and queenly, though sorrowful, associations,† Chidings-stone, about a mile on, is reached. A group of houses forming the street command notice from their possession of many old-world characteristics. A large stone on which scolds were placed, when the priests lectured them on the abuse of the tongue, was a special object in the village, whence it bore its name Chidings-stone.

Many years after I left the Wells, there came a day when the Earl of Waldegrave, then owner of Horace Walpole's emporium of curiosities, called Strawberry Hill, determined to part with the whole of the property. The sale commenced on April 23, and lasted for twenty-three days afterwards.‡ Being then in the vicinity, I paid many visits to this wonderful collection. I suppose no collection, miscellaneous as it undoubtedly was, could vie with it in point of rarity and surpassing historical interest: six days' sale of books sufficient to excite a mania amongst the lovers of odd and choice volumes; the clock given to Anne Boleyn by the King, with the inscription "the most happye" on one of the bells; the watch given by the Parliament to General Fairfax after the Battle

* The effigy wears the mantle, collar, and hood of the Order.

† Ann of Cleves died at Hever, the castle having been allotted as her residence when the tyrannic king refused to live with her.

‡ The sale took place in 1842, and in 1882 the dispersion of the Duke of Hamilton's treasures brought to my notice more than one of the Strawberry Hill gems, sold at very greatly increased prices.

of Naseby ; the exquisite miniatures by Oliver, Hilliard, Petitot, and other artists ; the armour of Francis I. ; the superb tazza and cover with the subject of the history of Samson ; a Sèvres china figure of Cupid mounted on a china pedestal with the following inscription :

Qui que tu sois, voici ton maître,
Il le fut, il l'est, ou doit l'être ;

the Limoges enamels, the Cellini bell, Cardinal Wolsey's hat, and countless *objets d'art*.

Looking back on the inspection I had the pleasant privilege of enjoying, the remembrance of its many curiosities stored in the most bizarre of all residences seems like a vision or a possible dream of fair things.

A few years after this memorable sale, the antiquarian world was stimulated in no common degree by the addition of a new learned body to the other societies of the Metropolis. Soon after the inauguration of the new institution, unfortunate misunderstandings arose, which were terminated by a division taking place, and the Association and the Institute each going separate ways. My friends, Mr. Albert Way and the Rev. Dr. Bowers, formed two of the leading members of the latter body, and I had the satisfaction of joining them in their early annual excursions. The then Marquis of Northampton was their President, and won the high regard of all who came in contact with him by his courteous and high-bred kindness. Many eminent men attended the meetings of the Institute who have joined the majority long since. Their names and their merits can never be forgotten. I am sadly reminded of their loss. They were recognised men of learning and cultivation in more than one of the leading arts and sciences. Only to name a few : Sir Richard Westmacott, Sir Roderick Murchison, Professor Sedgwick, Dr. Stanley, Bishop of Norwich, his son the Dean of Westminster, the Rev. Canon Rock, Dr. Buckland, Mr. Petit, Mr. Hawkins, the Rev. Mr. Hartshorne, etc.* This is a sad topic, but with it I may fittingly conclude this article, which is an endeavour to show that the pursuit of a taste for archaeology may add many a charm to life.

* I may possibly have omitted naming many clever and excellent archaeologists, for which a failing memory must plead for pardon.

The Discovery of Roman Sculptures at Chester.*



THE excavations in the Dean's field, on the inner face of the North Wall of Chester, have been continued. The facts at present apparent are that the greater portion of the soil in the interior face of the wall is made ground ; that some stones, apparently Roman, lie at the depth of 12 feet and 15 feet, seemingly on the old surface, and not built up into the wall ; also that the inner face of the dry stone wall is rough, and has always been a retaining wall, indicating that its date must be subsequent to that of the made ground behind it, and suggesting a later under-building of the Mediæval Wall. A few stones with mouldings of mediæval character continue to be found in it, beside those of Roman date. The Roman stones show additional fragments of a circular structure, probably a tomb, which appears to have had at least two stages, a podium with base, and cornice mouldings, probably 8 feet or 9 feet in diameter, and a smaller cylinder above. None of these stones are *in situ*, but they are consistent with such a structure, and being found together, are probably near their original site. The lewis and clamp-holes being on the flat surfaces of these stones, prove them not to have been voussoirs of arches. A number of rounded copings have also turned up, one being returned at an angle, and a socket on the angle suggests that it was ornamented with a vase or some similar decoration. Stones with a wide drafted border, and rusticated centre, may, with the copings, form part of the enclosure or peribolus noticed in the *Antiquary* for last December. A peculiarity of these latter stones is that they are set with the natural bed vertically, in the same way as local custom in this neighbourhood has done from a distant period. Some further inscribed stones have not yet been shown. The variation in the artistic quality of the sculpture, shown upon the monumental stones, previously partly described, is very considerable,

* For report of meeting at Chester, paper by Mr. E. P. Loftus Brock, F.S.A., and discussion, see p. 126.

and in some respects it corresponds with the decadence in style shown by the architectural remains. Many of these latter seem to have been wrought "libera manu," and without either very accurate lines or measurements, in such details as the spacing of the mutules, or accurate contour of the mouldings. So in the same way some of the architectural details of the sepulchral slabs are unequal, and out of drawing. One stone, which seems to form the base of a cippus, has a floreated base moulding which is not horizontal; and above is surmounted by debased acanthus foliage not worked vertically, nor are the lines of the pediments which surmount some of the stelæ drawn truly. One of the largest stones commemorates a Centurion of the twentieth legion, and was set up by his wife. This contains a figure of the Centurion, nearly half the size of life, on the right of the stone; and that of his wife, a much smaller figure, on the left. As a work of art it is debased and puerile in the extreme, the arms, hands, and feet disproportionately small, the attitudes stiffer and more conventional than any ordinary mediæval work, yet it retains rudely the faint tradition of classical style; and as a study of costume is most interesting. The male figure wears the short tunic of a centurion, and beneath it what appears to be the lorica or breastplate of chain or masclèd mail; and the cingulum or belt, with a large circular buckle worked with a St. Andrew's Cross. Such belts and buckles completed the defensive armour below the lorica. In the right hand he holds the centurion's vitis, or rod of office. The female figure is clothed in a long robe, probably the Stola and Pallium, and holds a cup against the bosom. The faces bear indications of an attempt at portraiture, the male with short curly beard and hair; the eyes are closed, an unusual thing in classical sculpture. Notwithstanding the cross upon the fibula, this monument is not of Christian origin; the inscription begins with the customary Pagan D.M., in fact no trace of any Roman Christian monument appears among these stones, though some of them are late in style.

One most interesting feature of this stone is that it bears, on the side, figures of a mattock and hammer, and the words "Sub Asci a. i. d." (beneath the axe she has dedicated

this). This is almost unique in England, though it has been found in Continental examples. Its meaning is not clearly understood; but these tools represent the implements for preparing the sepulchre, and it is evident that the wife who prepared this tomb was herself to rest in it. It is curious to find that another of this series of monuments bears on its edge figures of the mattock, the hammer, the chisel and the spade; the latter is heart-shaped, like a modern salt-shovel, and the shaft has no cross handle, resembling in this, the spade still used in Irish agriculture, which is doubtless a survival. Moratori gives several inscriptions deprecating the violation of tombs by the axe. This device occurs also on a stone, bearing two figures, beneath a flattened pediment, in lower relief than the others, and much worn and broken. The inscription is to Domitian Saturnii. The figures are draped in the toga, and are very archaic in style. There is room beneath each for inscriptions, but only that on the right has been cut. A rather better wrought monument, from which the inscription is broken away, gives a figure reclining in a triclinium, the lower part draped, and with the conventional tripod table beside the couch. The right hand lifts a cup, something like a modern tumbler; a nude child, at the foot of the couch, stretches its hand towards it. Above hang two wreaths, from a semi-hexagonal canopy. These figures, though conventional, are fairly proportioned, and the drapery disposed classically; the hair and faces have been carefully wrought, but only the child's remain unbroken. (See Fig. 1, p. 96.) Another smaller stone has had a somewhat similar subject, now nearly destroyed, while upon another a nude figure, rough, but not inartistic, reclines as if sleeping, beneath a twisted tree, resembling a cypress. These subjects are common on Pagan tombs. They seldom represented death directly, but symbolized it as a repose, or as a rest of feasting for the departed shade. Several of the fragments show a much higher technical skill in their sculpture, notably the upper part of a male figure, which shows the good proportion and easy and natural pose characteristic of Greek art; the folds of the toga are simple, but naturally rendered; unfortunately this fragment is much mutilated, and

the face lost. The pediment under which it stands shows a high-pitched gable, quite plain.

nearly obliterated. The figures noticed in the December number, representing, in very



FIG. 1.—SCULPTURE FROM A TOMB FROM CHESTER WALLS.

Of a similar class of work is a small female figure, in a circular headed niche. The lower

low relief, a figure of Hercules (Fig. 2), a harpy, and the hind quarters of a lion, are

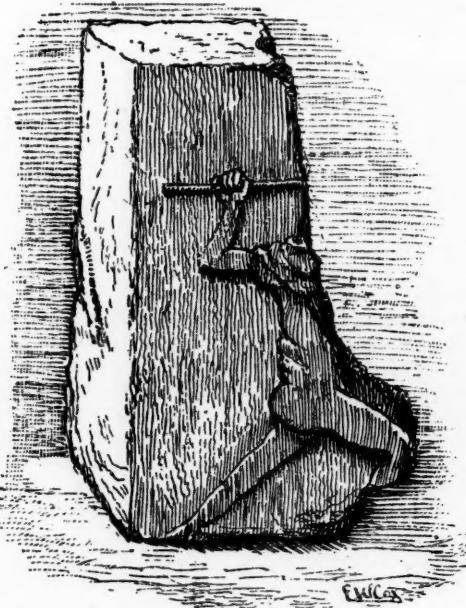


FIG. 2.—HERCULES FRAGMENT FROM A TOMB FROM CHESTER WALLS.

portion below the waist is lost; but the bust and neck are beautifully modelled, and the drapery delicately indicated. Here also the face is

also fairly well outlined. A more careful examination of the male figure shows indications of the lion's skin, thrown over the right

shoulder, thus confirming the original idea that the figure represents Hercules. There are numerous other fragments too much worked, but the effect must have been striking, from its richness and large size: probably it formed an intermediate frieze,

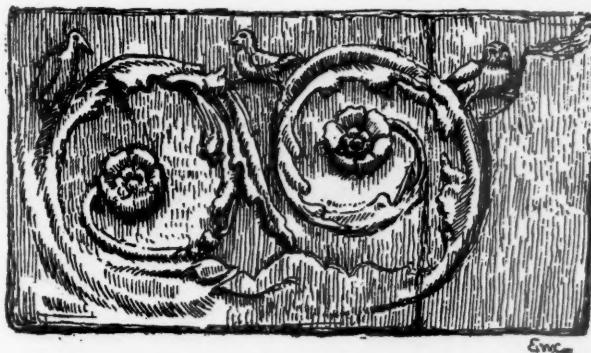


FIG. 3.—FRIEZE OF ROMAN BUILDING FROM CHESTER WALLS.

worn for any minute description of their details.

The fragment of sculptured frieze remains to be noticed; it is covered with a spiral

between two columns, over which the entablature was broken outwards, as the pattern is not continuous at the ends. On the upper side of the scroll are three birds, an owl, a

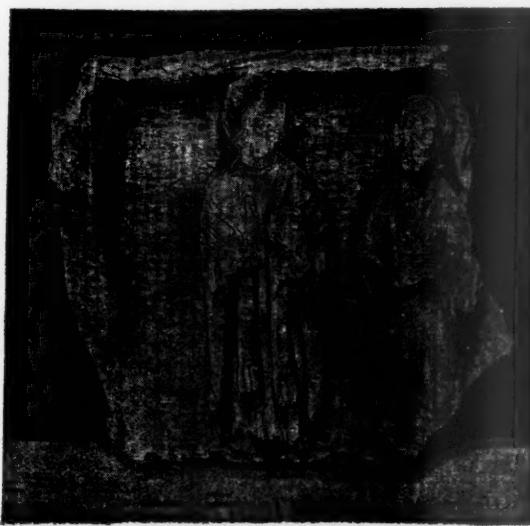


FIG. 4.—SCULPTURED STONE FROM CHESTER WALLS.

scrollwork, branching out with a kind of acanthus leaf, and with a large rose in the centre of each of the two scrolls which make up the composition. It is rather carelessly

parrot, and a bird like a crane, which perch among the foliage. The carving is little weathered, but in places is worn down as if it had been used for a doorstep.

Historical notices are very scanty if not altogether wanting to account for these stones being built into the wall. Ralph Higden, a monk of the thirteenth century, speaks of many inscribed memorial stones that existed in his time, of which these may form a part. These may have been built into the wall when it was reconstructed by Edward I., or at much later dates. It is known that such monuments were held sacred by the Romans, and carefully maintained, and that no nation was less likely to suffer a wholesale desecration of the memorials of the dead.

The fact that the faces of most of the figures have been wantonly destroyed, and that stones otherwise in fair condition are so treated, points rather to the conclusion that those who used them as building material looked upon them as superstitious images, and purposely destroyed them. That the faces of the centurion and his wife are an exception to this destruction may be that the St. Andrew's Cross on the girdle has induced some Christian Iconoclast to spare it.

Since the stone bearing two figures (see Fig. 4, p. 97), and apparently Ecclesiastical, was spoken of in your December number, it has been exhibited in London to many of the leading archaeologists by Mr. de Gray Birch, and pronounced to be Roman, and the Ecclesiastical figure to be that of a Roman matron with a mirror. If this be so, the stole will represent the "Clavus Angusta," a scarf or border worn by Patricians, sometimes loose, sometimes forming part of a garment, from which the mediæval stole took its origin. While not disputing the judgment of those so well qualified to decide this question, it is curious that so many analogies to mediæval work exist together in this stone—the object like a chalice being carried in the left hand, the circular marks behind the head suggesting a nimbus, and that the hands are passed through an armhole in the garment resembling a cope. Also that the representation of the Clavus has nearly always been found on very late work, such as the paintings in the catacombs of Pope Calixtus which were largely restored in the eighth and ninth centuries, and but very seldom appearing at early dates, especially in sculpture.

Among the most interesting of these inscribed stones is one without sculpture, to

Marcus Aurelius Præfector Castrorum of the twentieth legion, a Syrian who lived seventy-two years. The Præfector of the Camp was master of all the works relating to its construction and maintenance. The twentieth legion built Chester and assisted to build Hadrian's wall. Here is the tomb of one under whose care may have arisen some of those great buildings whose stones we disinter to-day, wondering at their vastness and costliness, now worn and shattered and turned for ages to baser uses.

EDWARD W. COX.



National Portraits.



THE most appropriate introduction to this subject will be a sketch of the origin and history of our National Portrait Gallery. Visitors to the Gallery will probably be acquainted with the brief outline of facts which is prefixed to Mr. Scharf's useful catalogue; but the following is a fuller account, and our American readers, at least, will not deem it superfluous.

This admirable institution, so happily termed National, sprang from the suggestion of Earl Stanhope, President of the Society of Antiquaries, in 1856. To the Prince Consort he communicated his intention of moving the House of Lords on the subject, and the Prince heartily approved of the idea. The letters which passed between them are now framed and hung in the Gallery. On March 4, the House of Lords resolved "that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty," praying that Her Majesty would take into consideration "the expediency of forming a Gallery of the Portraits of the most eminent persons in British history." On June 6, the House of Commons, or the purpose of carrying out the project, voted a grant of £2,000 for the ensuing year. And this was the origin of that collection in which Englishmen at large feel so legitimate a pride, and in which antiquaries especially take so keen an interest.

On the following December 2nd, the Board of Trustees was appointed under a Treasury Warrant, and was thus composed:

The Lord President of the Council for the time being.
 The Marquess of Lansdowne.
 The Earl Stanhope.
 The Earl of Ellesmere.
 The Lord Elcho.
 The Right Hon. Sidney Herbert.
 The Right Hon. B. Disraeli.
 The Lord Robert Cecil.
 The Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay.
 Sir Francis Palgrave.
 Sir Charles Eastlake, President of the Royal Academy.
 William Smith, Esq.
 W. H. Carpenter, Esq.

Amid all the mutations which that Board of Trustees underwent, and we believe there is not one of the original members at present a Trustee, there was no more regular attendant at the meetings of the Board than Benjamin Disraeli. His name appears in every report till his death in 1881; in 1877 the familiar name becoming "Earl of Beaconsfield." Mr. Gladstone, too, although not one of the original members, has shown devotion to the object by his long-continued service as a Trustee. He is still a member of the Board. The Earl of Ellesmere died very soon after his appointment as a Trustee, viz., on February 18, 1857, but not before he had shown his appreciation of the object of the collection by enriching it with the celebrated "Chandos" portrait of Shakespeare, formerly in the Stowe collection. Thomas Carlyle was appointed to succeed his lordship in February, 1857, and remained a Trustee till 1868. In the same year that Carlyle was appointed, Macaulay became a peer, and in December, 1859, he died. Mr. Gladstone was Macaulay's successor, so that he has been a Trustee nearly from the beginning of the collection. The present "Director, Keeper, and Secretary" was appointed by the Treasury on February 28, 1857; if not present at the birth, the collection was given into his charge in the earliest stage of infancy, and he has watched its growth for over thirty years.

When the Trustees made their first report, dated May 5, 1858, the portraits numbered 35; in their last report (June, 1887) the number had reached 417. A temporary home for the collection was provided by the Government at 29, Great George Street, Westminster, and here the pictures were hung;

but at this time the collection was too limited for exhibition. That the Trustees were anxious to bring the collection up to a point at which they could invite public inspection, is evident from the conclusion of their first report: "In each of the two preceding years a grant of £2,000 has been proposed by the Government, and voted by the House of Commons. The Trustees have by no means expended that sum in their purchases or other disbursements; but they would regret if, for that reason, a lesser sum were now to appear upon the estimates. For, as was pointed out by the Chairman in his speech, upon proposing in the House of Lords, in 1856, the foundation of this Gallery, there are years when the portraits that can be obtained by purchase are but few; while in another year, perhaps, a sale at some great country house, or a dispersion of some celebrated collection, may call for a far greater than average expense. On this ground the Trustees think it most desirable that, while refraining from purchases that seem to them of less than ordinary interest, they may be able to reserve to themselves the means of profiting by any sudden and favourable opportunity for large acquisitions. They desire, therefore, to express their hope that the liberality hitherto shown in this undertaking, both by the Administration and by Parliament, may be still continued."

On July 6, 1857, the Trustees recorded their opinion "That it would not be for the advantages of their future purchases if the exact sum paid for each portrait already acquired were at present divulged."

The Trustees had no choice but to make their purchases through skilled agents, and we can readily understand that publicity was impolitic. It was, of course, the aim of the Trustees to promote public spirit among the possessors of national portraits, and to encourage them to present their treasures to the Gallery. At the same time it was their duty to secure portraits of national importance which might come into the market; and to advertise what they were paying for pictures would have checked the flow of donations.

It happened in the spring of 1859 that a letter appeared in the *Times* concerning some purchases made by the Trustees, and in order

to reply effectively to this criticism, they departed from their course and allowed the secretary to publish the prices given. However, they did not do this without reiterating in their second report to the Treasury that it would not be advisable to divulge the prices paid for the portraits they had acquired. Mr. Scharf's letter is an excellent defence, and is interesting enough for insertion here:

"SIR,—As Secretary of the National Portrait Gallery, I ask your leave to offer some remarks in answer to the letter of 'F. N.', inserted in your paper of yesterday.

"The charge against the Trustees is, in substance, that, at a recent sale by auction at a private house in Eaton Square, three portraits were purchased for very small sums by Mr. Graves, of Pall Mall, which portraits were afterwards bought by the Trustees for the National Portrait Gallery at exorbitant prices—namely, Lord Treasurer Winchester, 100 guineas; King James I., 250 guineas; and Mary Sidney, Countess of Pembroke, 300 guineas; while, at the same time, the authenticity of the last-named picture is called in question.

"These three portraits formed part of the late collection at Holm-Lacey, the old seat of the Scudamores, in Herefordshire. It is not possible for the Trustees, unless they would delegate their trust to a single person, to attend and decide upon purchases in all the sales that are so frequently held in private houses, both in town and country. Of such sales there is sometimes but the very shortest notice given, so as not to admit of combined deliberation previously. Sometimes, again, the title of the catalogue affords but little indication. In the very case here mentioned, the catalogue now before me of a sale at 91, Eaton Square, is headed 'Furniture,' in the largest capitals, while some thirty lines lower, after a long array of 'beautiful marqueterie writing-cabinet,' 'grand pianoforte,' 'handsome pier-glasses,' etc., we find, in much smaller type, a mention of 'thirty valuable pictures.'

"Now, sir, it often happens at sales like this that pictures are bought at a higher value than on full examination is found to belong to them. But, on the other hand, there are occasionally great bargains, when a

professional man of great experience as a picture-dealer is able to discover a value that others fail to observe, and to buy very cheap what afterwards, on close examination, and by the judgment of competent persons, turns out a great prize. More especially may this occur when, as in the last-named case before us, there has been an error as to the name; when a portrait advertised and sold as 'Anne of Denmark' is afterwards, on proofs quite satisfactory to those who examined them, identified as a much rarer and more important resemblance—that of 'Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother.'

"When the Trustees, at their last meeting, had these portraits before them, and were once satisfied on the two points of authenticity and of historical importance, they thought that the real question for them to consider, as to prices, was not retrospective, but prospective; that is, whether the prices asked by Messrs. Graves at that time, after full examination of the pictures, exceeded the fair market value. Now on that point I can assure you that, to the best of my judgment, the prices asked, though high, were by no means exorbitant. Of this I can afford you at least one signal proof. It falls within my own personal knowledge that a gentleman of acknowledged taste and judgment was most desirous to purchase for himself this portrait of the Countess of Pembroke for the sum of 300 guineas, had the Trustees rejected it; and that he was only withheld from a previous offer by deference to the claims of a national collection. I have reason to believe that the two other portraits also would have been readily bought by other persons if not secured by the Trustees.

"All these three portraits, I may venture to assert, have superior claims to notice as works of art. The old age of Winchester, Lord Treasurer at near ninety, and the boyhood of James I., in very characteristic court attire, and with a falcon at his wrist, are delineated with much graphic skill. Of this I hope that 'F. N.' (who, I am sure, from the tone of his remarks, will not be swayed by any unfair prepossession), or any other gentleman interested in the subject, will satisfy themselves by a personal visit to the Gallery on any Wednesday or Saturday afternoon.

"There must always be difficulties and objections, as well as differences of opinion, in the progress of any such national collection; but I venture to think that had the Trustees allowed portraits of so much merit, when once offered them, to pass by, they would fairly have been open to another charge of neglect and indifference to their appointed duty.

"I have, etc.,
"GEORGE SCHARF, Jun.

The following explanatory note was sent to the Trustees by Messrs. Graves:

*Messrs. Graves to William Smith, Esq.,
Deputy Chairman.*

"6, Pall Mall, London,
"March 31, 1859.

"In justice to ourselves we think it proper to give you some explanation as to the cause of the difference between the amount paid by us at Mr. Wingfield Baker's sale for the portraits of James the First, the Lord Treasurer Winchester, and Mary, Countess of Pembroke, and that we charged the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery.

"The moment we saw these pictures we were thoroughly aware of their historical importance, as well as of their great pecuniary value, and had fully made up our minds to give a very large sum for them. By an accident, which we are totally unable to account for, there was scarcely any competition at the sale, and they were bought by us for a comparatively trifling sum. It is a very mistaken notion, adopted by a gentleman writing to the *Times* under the signature 'F. N.', that if an agent of the National Portrait Gallery had been present he could have secured them at a very small advance on the price we paid; on the contrary, we beg to assure you that we were prepared to give within a few pounds of the amount we received for them, and probably, had there been a vigorous competition, we might even have exceeded that sum."

It was in this year that the Gallery was first opened to the public. The temporary home which had been provided for the collection was quite unsuitable to the purposes of exhibition, the rooms being parts of a pri-

vate house. A chronological arrangement under such conditions was impossible, and the risk of damage to portraits placed in different apartments, with only one superintendent in charge, was only too manifest. A beginning was made, however, and tickets obtainable from the principal printsellers of London admitted the public on Wednesdays and Saturdays from twelve till four o'clock. This was a crucial period in the history of the collection. The position of those responsible for the national portraits was an anxious one, and it is satisfactory to find that they were gratified by the result of their first exhibition. A catalogue was prepared and sold to the visitors; the number of portraits on view was seventy.

From this time, the Trustees for several years urged upon Government the inadequacy of the space which had been provided for the collection in Great George Street. It appears somewhat strange that so influential a Board, some of the members of which were at the same time members of the Government, should have found the Lords of the Treasury so deaf to their appeals. Yet so it was, and year after year the same representations were made without avail. The uninitiated cannot but wonder how the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for instance, could sit at the meetings of the Board, join in its appeals, and yet be powerless to assist the object of his trust.

Anxious as the Trustees were to throw the collection open to the public without restriction, they hesitated to do so until a proper Gallery should have been provided. However, their hopes on this score being apparently vain, they wisely decided to do the best they could with the space at their command. In March, 1861, the system of tickets for admission was abolished, and the collection was open to the public on Wednesdays and Saturdays. In this year the question arose as to whether modes of portraiture other than painting should be admitted, and the Trustees having decided in the affirmative, a bust of Thomas Moore was added to the collection.

In the following year the number of portraits had reached 140, and the want of space became so acute that a special letter was addressed to the Treasury (dated March 20, 1862) by order of the Trustees. The secre-

tary was directed to express "in the strongest terms" how "utterly inadequate" was the space provided. What was that space? Two apartments of very moderate size, a very small back room on the same floor, and the walls of the staircase! What becomes of necessities of light and position in such circumstances? And yet, in spite of this unattractive home in which the national portraits were lodged, they were inspected by 10,907 visitors in the year 1861.

In the following year (1863) the purchasing power of the Trustees was reduced by one-half, the grant being lowered from £2,000 to £1,000. Perhaps it was thought the easiest plan to still the clamour for more space; the growth of the collection could be stopped by a stroke of the pen. But it happened there were not many pictures for sale that year, so the Trustees report cheerfully. This year, too, and ever since, the amounts paid for the portraits were published.

Every year donations were received, and purchases to a limited extent were made, and the state of congestion at 29, Great George Street became worse and worse. Nevertheless, the number of visitors constantly increased, and in 1865 the collection was opened to the public on Mondays as well as Wednesdays and Saturdays.

In 1866, there was an Exhibition of National Portraits at South Kensington, and six portraits were lent from the National Portrait Gallery. In the following year a further loan of twenty-two portraits, and in 1868 of twenty-one portraits, was furnished from the national collection.

Probably the state of congestion at No. 29, Great George Street was such that it could no longer be ignored, and the Exhibition of National Portraits at South Kensington afforded some relief while the provision of a suitable Gallery was being considered. From April, 1868, to April, 1869, the Trustees were in negotiation with the Treasury on the subject, and it seems to have been settled that a home should be found for the national portraits in Trafalgar Square. Pending this, the Trustees urged that further temporary accommodation should be provided, and in their report to the Treasury, dated April 29, 1869, they gave the following warning: "Meanwhile, without imputing any blame to

any person, it is their duty to state explicitly that they have no wall space remaining to suspend even one new picture; and that, besides the general crowding of those already in their charge, and the enforced absence of any order or classification as to dates or subjects, some of these portraits are of necessity placed in such a light that they can scarcely be seen at all, and then only to the greatest disadvantage."

This remonstrance proved effective, and during the year the collection was removed to commodious apartments at South Kensington. In their next report the Trustees stated: "It was the desire of Lord John Manners, on the part of the late Administration, to provide such apartments as soon as possible, and some overtures were in progress for that object when the late Administration retired from office. But the apartments so to be obtained were to be regarded as only a temporary accommodation; the intention of the Government, as stated by Lord John Manners, having been that the National Portrait Gallery should, as the permanent arrangement, form part of the new buildings to be erected in Trafalgar Square."

How the collection extended both in size and usefulness while at South Kensington need not be described. In June, 1885, the fire occurred in the International Exhibition building, not sixty yards from the National Portrait Gallery, destroying a large portion of the adjacent Indian Museum, and the question of the safety of the portrait collection became one of urgency. On July 16 following, a special meeting of the Trustees was held at Whitehall, convened at the suggestion of the First Commissioner of H.M. Office of Works, to consider immediate steps to be taken to secure the safety of the National Portrait collection. The result of this meeting was that the pictures were transferred to the Bethnal Green Museum, *as a loan*, for a term not exceeding two years. It was thought that within this term the collection would probably have been provided with a suitable and permanent home, but the latest intimation which had reached the Trustees when they made their report last June was an official pleasantry to the effect that the question of a new site for the Gallery "will not be lost sight of."

(To be continued.)

Finger-Rings.

BY THE LATE HODDER M. WESTROPP.

(Continued.)

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ETRUSCAN.

HE general form of the stone used by the Etruscans in their rings was the scarabæus, supposed to have been imitated from the Egyptian signets of that form, and to have been derived from Egypt through Phoenicia. The Etruscan scarabæus was usually so set that it revolved round its centre, and thus exposed alternately either surface to view. The earliest Etruscan scarabæi bear rude designs in drill-work of fantastic animals, gryphons, winged lions, etc. It was not until after their intercourse with the Greeks had been long established



ETRUSCAN (ADMĒTUS).

that they began to attempt embodying upon the field of the signets the personages and scenes derived immediately from the mythology and poetry of that people. From the number of heroic subjects found on them, it is supposed that they were symbols of valour and manly energy, and were worn only by the male sex. Ornamental rings also occur; one in the possession of the author is of gold, the bezel taking the form of a coronet, in which a piece of amber was set. Some more Etruscan rings are found made of very thin pure gold, filled up in the centre with some composition. These were mortuary, and were not made for actual use, but merely to decorate the rich man's corpse in his tomb. The most magnificent Etruscan ring known is that in the British

Museum. It is formed by two lions, whose bodies make up the shank, their heads and fore-paws supporting an elegant bezel in filigree which holds the signet stone, a small scarabæus charged with a lion regardant. The Waterton collection at South Kensington Museum contains a gold ring of Etruscan workmanship of singular beauty. According to Padre Garacci it is a betrothal or nuptial ring. In the Louvre is an Etruscan ring, the bezel of which carries a representation of Admetus, King of Phene, in a chariot drawn by a boar and a lion. The sides of the bezel bear spiral-work.

GREECE.

Rings were not worn at an early period in Greece. Pliny observes that no mention whatever of signet-rings is to be discovered amongst Homer's minute descriptions of ornamental jewels. It is supposed the fashion of wearing them was introduced from Asia. Lessing asserts that the fashion did not exist in Greece before the times of the Peloponnesian war (B.C. 431-401). It is probable that up to that time the signet was merely the engraved stone itself suspended by a string, or worn on a thread round the wrist. The earliest Greek rings were of base metal, not gold, and had the signet device cut in their faces. In Greece proper, the signet-rings of the higher class (as appears from Euripides' allusions) were made entirely of gold, and passages of Aristophanes and Xenophon clearly show that in general they were of base metal. In the age of Alexander, the perfection of workmanship attained to by the gem-engravers of that age contributed greatly to the taste for wearing signet-rings carrying gems with subjects engraved on them. Alexander permitted none but the celebrated artist Pyrgoteles to engrave his head on a signet-ring. After conquering Darius, he is reported to have sealed his first acts with that monarch's ring. It is said he used it solely for sealing his edicts addressed to the Persians; but his paternal signet he still retained for those issued to the Greeks. The device upon the latter was a lion passant with a club in the field, in allusion to Hercules, the founder of the Macedonian line. On his death-bed Alexander drew off his signet-ring and delivered it in silence to Perdiccas, thus

declaring him his successor. The most celebrated ring of antiquity was that of Polycrates, the tyrant of Samos. According to Herodotus, the stone was an emerald; the engraving on it (a lyre) was by Theodorus, of Samos. It was the characteristic of the profession of a musician to wear a number of rings, Ismenias the musician being the first to introduce the fashion. Aristophanes distinguishes the musicians of his age with an epithet of his own coining:

σφραγίδ-ονυχ-αργυρο-χομητραι—

"lazy, long-haired fellows, with fingers covered with rings down to the nails." The Lacedemonians in Pliny's age adhered to the law of Lycurgus, and wore nothing but iron signets. Like the Egyptian ladies, the Grecian ladies displayed upon their fingers a profusion of rings, of which some were set with signets, others with jewels remarkable for their colour and brilliancy. Seal-rings were styled by the Greeks *σφραγίδες*; rings without precious stones were termed *ἀψηφοι*; and a cluster-ring *πολυψηφοις*.

ROME.

The fashion of wearing rings among the Romans dates from an early period, as the gemmed fingers of the statues of the two immediate successors of Romulus, Numa and Servius Tullius, cited by Pliny, sufficiently attest. Pliny tells us, however, that the first date in Roman history at which he could trace any general use of them was in A.U.C. 449, in the time of Cneius Flavius, the son of Annius; yet, he adds, after this date they must have come into use very rapidly, for in the second Punic war they were so abundant that Hannibal was able to send from Italy to Carthage three modii of them. The use of signet-rings was evidently derived from their neighbours, the Etruscans, who were famous for the beauty of their signet-rings and their jewellery. The Sabines, too, as we learn from Livy, were distinguished, even from the infancy of Rome, for the size and beauty of their rings. In the period of republican simplicity in Rome, an iron signet-ring (the device being cut in the solid metal) was usually worn, Pliny tells us, as a badge of martial courage, and was con-

sidered to be the right of freemen. Under the early Republic the senators alone had the privilege of wearing gold rings; a privilege not conceded to the knights before the time of Tiberius, the majority of them keeping to their ancient rings of iron so late as under Augustus. According to the new regulations of the law passed under Tiberius, no one was allowed to wear a gold ring unless both himself, father, and grandfather were free born, his property assessed at 400 sestertia (L4,000), and himself possessing the right of sitting in the fourteen rows in the theatre allotted to the equestrian order by the Julian law. Freed-men could only obtain the right to wear a ring of *solid* gold by an express decree of the senate. As luxury increased, and a more general taste for these ornaments prevailed, each person adopted a separate subject to be engraved on his signet-ring. On that of Pompey was engraved three trophies. Julius Cæsar took Venus Victrix as his tutelar deity. Augustus at first sealed with a sphinx, afterwards with a head of Alexander the Great, and at last with his own portrait, in which he was imitated by some of his successors. Mæcenas adopted a frog. Nero wore a ring given him by his infamous favourite, Sporus, with the rape of Proserpine for a subject. Galba adopted a dog for the family seal. Under Claudius it became the fashion to engrave the device upon the gold of the ring itself, now made solid; at first the portrait of the Emperor was engraved on it, and was only worn by such persons as had the *entrée* at court. It appears that the official seal of every person of importance was, as a rule, the likeness of himself; the Emperor Hadrian's ring bore a likeness of himself.

Commodus took for his seal the figure of an Amazon, under which character his famous mistress, Marcia, was represented.

Sometimes, but very rarely, the ring was adorned with two gems. The Emperor Valerian mentions one of these under the name of *annulus bigemmeus*. The wood-cut on next page presents a specimen of this kind of ring.

The *annulus prouerbialis*, which was sent as a present to a betrothed woman, as a sign of her engagement, was only of iron, a custom

which continued till Pliny's time. The passion for rings and other ornaments reached a high pitch among the Romans. In Horace's



days, to sport three rings at once on the left hand, "cum tribus annellis," was the mark of the finished exquisite, but the next fifty years of peace and luxury had largely multiplied the number demanded for the complete outfit of the man of fashion. Martial mentions a certain fop constantly appearing with half a dozen rings on each finger. Such heaps of rings worn at once were, it would seem, merely ornamental, and not signets. We here quote Pliny's words on rings, and on the extravagance the passion for them led to in his day: "It was the custom at first to wear rings on a single finger only—the one, namely, that is next to the little finger; and thus we see the case in the statues of Numa and Servius Tullius. In later times, it became the practice to put rings on the finger next the thumb, even in the case of the statues of the gods; and more recently, again, it has been the fashion to wear them upon the little finger as well. Among the peoples of Gallia and Britannia, the middle finger, it is said, is used for this purpose. At the present day, however, among us, this is the only finger that is excepted, all others being loaded with rings; smaller rings even being separately adapted for the smaller joints of the fingers. Some there are who heap several rings on the little finger alone; while others, again, wear but one ring on this finger, the ring that sets a seal on the signet-ring itself; this last being carefully shut up as an object of rarity, too precious to be worn in common use, and only to be taken from the cabinet (dactyliotheca) as from a sanctuary. And thus is the wearing of a single ring upon the little finger no more than an ostentatious advertisement that the owner has property of a more precious nature under seal at home! Some, too, make a parade of the weight of their rings, while to

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others it is quite a labour to wear more than one at a time; some, in their solicitude for the safety of their gems, make the hoop of gold tinsel, and fill it with a lighter material than gold, thinking thereby to diminish the risk of a fall. Others, again, are in the habit of enclosing poisons beneath the stones of their rings, and so wear them as instruments of death. And then, besides, how many of the crimes that are stimulated by cupidity are committed through the instrumentality of rings! How happy the times—how truly innocent—in which no seal was put to anything! At the present day, on the contrary, our very food even and our drink have to be preserved from theft through the agency of the ring; and so far is it from being sufficient to have the very keys sealed, that the signet-ring is often taken from off the owner's fingers while he is overpowered with sleep, or lying on his death-bed." As an instance of one of those rings worn by some who "made a parade of the weight of their rings," we may mention the ring figured in Montfaucon. It is a thumb-ring of unusual magnitude, and of costly material. It bears the bust in high relief of the Empress Plotina, the consort of Trajan: she is represented with the Imperial diadem. It is supposed to have decorated the hand of some member of the Imperial family. There is one of rock-crystal, about two inches broad, in the Louvre. That these monstrous rings were actually worn appears from Martial (xi. 7) where he ridicules the upstart who gloried in one a full pound in weight. Mr. King mentions one now in the Fould collection, the weight of which, though intended for the little finger, was three ounces. It was set with a large Oriental onyx, not engraved. At a later period the extravagance in wearing rings became even greater. Lucian tells us that in his time a cobbler, Micyllus, who came suddenly into a vast fortune, went about with "full sixteen weighty rings hanging from his fingers."

The subjects engraved on rings were in endless variety; among those which are more frequently found are the Olympic divinities. Jupiter, Mercury, Bacchus, Apollo, Mars, are the more frequently chosen for subjects. The Cupids and Neptunes, Plutos and Vulcans are less frequent. Harpocrates, with his

finger on his lip, was fashionable at Rome in Pliny's day. Of the goddesses, in bust or in whole length, there are more Minervas than Dianas ; more Dianas than Junos ; of Venus the effigies are numerous. Heroes were also frequently chosen. Achilles dragging Hector round the walls of Troy, the return of Ulysses, the parting of Hector and Andromache, Æneas escaping from Troy, Tydeus, are favourite subjects. The sages, poets, orators, statesmen, of Greece and Italy, furnished a large supply of heads as subjects for signets. Of ancient sages the most popular was Epicurus. According to Cicero, the image of

They belong to the later times of the Empire. Paste intagli are also found in bronze setting. These rings were sometimes gilt. Small rings of bronze were worn by the Roman soldiers. Several of these rings are frequently found at Rome, and in the Roman colonies, with the number of the legion to which the soldier belonged engraved on it.

Lead rings, set with intagli, of early date and good work, are sometimes to be met with, but they are exceedingly rare. "It is evident that these leaden rings," Mr. King writes, "in their time passed for massive gold, a deception favoured by their weight



Epicurus was not only represented at Rome in paintings, but also engraved on drinking-cups and rings. Animals of all kinds also occur on rings—lions, horses, dogs, sphinxes. Among birds the eagle was a favourite seal at Rome.

Silver rings are by no means rare. They are either solid with devices cut on them, or set with intagli. From the rudeness of the workmanship, and their small size, they are supposed to belong to the Lower Empire. Bronze rings are numerous, as they were frequently worn at Rome, but the engraving on the stones set in the rings is generally rude.

and ductility, and not to be easily detected when encased in the thick envelope of gold leaf, of which they often retain the trace. Though iron rings were in frequent use, few have come down to us, iron being so extremely liable to corrode. Rings carved entirely in the solid stone, such as crystal, agate, chalcedony, or green jasper, with subjects engraved on them, occur only in the period of the Lower Empire. The other materials used for this purpose were ivory, bone, amber, jet, glass, and porcelain."

Gnostic-rings bear the representation of the god Abraxas, figured with the head of a cock with a human body, terminating in

serpents ; and of the god Knouphis, a serpent erect, with a lion's head, surrounded with seven rays. The stone on which these subjects are engraved is usually a green plasma.

Rings of a Sassanian period are made of one solid piece, and generally have engraved on the bezel the sacred bull, the symbol of the earth, couchant.

At a Byzantine period gaudy decoration in rings prevailed. Jewellery became complicated in design, and enrichment was considered before elegance. Some rings were copies of those of Greek and Roman design. In my collection is a Byzantine ring of bronze, like one from Pompeii, terminating in serpents' heads.

Even the Celts had rings. The prevailing form consisted of twisted wires of pure gold. Ireland seems to have boasted a higher civilization at an earlier period than the sister kingdoms, and her ancient art-works are remarkable for their skilled and tasteful elaboration. In the Lonesborough collection are two remarkable rings found at New



IRISH.



Grange, a few miles from Drogheda, the ornamentation is of a twisted-rope pattern. Examples of bronze rings also occur in Ireland.

Curious twisted spiral rings were worn by the old Northmen, examples of which, found in graves, occur in the Royal Museum, Copenhagen. Rings plaited of gold wires have been found in the Hebrides, of an early Celtic period.

Rings of an Anglo-Saxon period are remarkable for their graceful decoration. In the Waterton collection is an interesting example. The face of this ring is an elongated oval, with a circular centre. Within this circle is the conventional figure of a dragon, surrounded by convoluted ornament. Four quaintly-formed heads of dragons occupy the triangular spaces ; above and below this centre the ring is of silver.

Rings of a Merovingian period are generally rather rude in design and make.



MEROVINGIAN.

During the later Merovingian and Carlovingian times the bezel is expanded into a trumpet-shape, and is sometimes filled at top with a rosette of sapphires in the rough, garnets, or garnet-pastes, or fresh-water pearls. In this period also ancient intagli mounted in massy gold rings frequently occur.

In the Middle Ages rings were extensively used, remarkable for the excellence of their workmanship, also the variety of their decoration.

At a later period rings of Italian workmanship are distinguished for their tasteful ornamentation. B. Cellini made some steel rings inlaid with gold, which were considered very beautiful, and for which he says in his memoirs "he was paid forty crowns."

Giovanni and Romalo del Tovalloccio, in the sixteenth century, were unequalled in the art of mounting precious stones in rings.

Venice particularly excelled in the art of making rings. At Naples at the present day rings are made carrying a hand, with two fingers pointed, to ward off the evil-eye.



FRENCH.



French rings of the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries are highly decorative. One of the fifteenth carries the figure of St. George and the Dragon, with a border of roses and *fleurs de lis* around the saint. On one of the sixteenth century, in the Louvre, the bezel is supported by dragons' heads. All the French jewels of the sixteenth century were

executed in the Italian style. Cellini's residence in France (1540-1545) exercised a great influence over the goldsmith's art. The exquisite rings of Wociriot, a goldsmith of Lorraine, established at Lyons, where he flourished about 1560, partook equally of the Italian taste of the epoch.

Indian rings are generally very massive, and bear a peculiar ornamentation, with flower leaves of jewels. In the Loan Collection, South Kensington, was an Indian ring, belonging to her Majesty, of massive gold, the projecting centre of the hoop set with a row of cabochon gems, a cat's-eye ruby, moonstone, sapphire, carbuncle, cymophane, and faulted ruby, the surface enriched with small diamond sparks. The Zemindar invariably wears a ring with a cat's-eye. The decorative rings of the present day are generally of twisted gold wire, with some precious stone in the bezel.

From the earliest time down to the present there was a large variety of classes of rings, according to the purposes for which they were used.

Collections of these rings have been made at all periods. The ancient Roman showed his refinement by having his cabinet, containing a collection of rings.

The most celebrated modern collections are those of the late Lord Londesborough, celebrated for its value and beauty, and of Mr. Waterton, which exhibited a chronological series of rings. Mr. Soden Smith, of South Kensington Museum, and Mr. John Evans, have also valuable collections of rings.

(To be continued.)



A Glimpse at Seventeenth Century Society.



CURIOSUS book appeared in 1669, giving, in the course of a lengthy attack upon the habits of the gentry, several interesting glimpses into the domestic history of the period, and our readers will doubtless be interested in some extracts which we have selected for these pages.

"The idle person," says the author, "is the only common Hackney, and having no employ of his own to work off Time and his faculties, stands ready to let out himself Post, on the easie rates of the next stirring device and lubency. A Play, a Ball, a Mistress, a Glass of Wine engage his soul as profoundly in contemplation of his dawning felicity, as the Turk's zeal is enspirited by their brutish paradise."

On the theatres a very interesting note occurs, which we do not think has been before noticed by historians of the stage: "I do not much admire to see the theatres crowded with our idle spectators; the hours here spent are a tolerable exemption from lewder diversions, and with some obtain the credit of a School-discipline, periodic Lectures, and Academic exercitations which teach as much gravity and experience, as they think can amount to necessary aphorisms to regulate their own lives by, and be diagnostic of all others. I may not envy the Dramatic Ingeniosos, the Empire they here sway over Wit, nor the models they give of the world, and the delectable variety in which they serve up the humors that are abroad. May the Stage never want a florid Laureat to chastise predominant Vices and Troublesome Follies. . . . But supposing the Stage less dangerous and nauseous than some Pulpits, and that every day brought forth a work as consummat as Father Ben's: yet I would advise them against their common frequenting Plays."

"For 'tis the man of business gives denomination and life to the world."

On *Pride* we have the following: "Is it not a splenetic diversion to behold two Gallants as formally rigged forth, as London, Amsterdam, or Venice can equip them, attaiguing each other with a full bearing up to the salute, sometimes veiling down every inch of their sails, streaming out all their loose colours and pendants, and sudainly closing with whole Broadsides of embraces, while not a word attends the ceremony . . . and they come off, perhaps, with a furled cuff, a silken rope slack'd, or a curle unpitch'd (I mean ungumm'd, or ungreas'd). This you may call the School of Antiques, a very variation of Postures, a Tryal of agility, and such a mute comparison of empty

noddles, as we make of Bottles by oft and quick shaking them."

"I may give Pride the Title of Heir-apparent in the Masculine, to the greatest Portion of their time and care. With the other sex, let her be advanced for their Mirrour, that which flatters them even out of themselves into a kind of apotheosis."

"Do's a bespangled vest cast a greater heat and blaze on the hearth of the Breast? To what, then, serve the exquisite study and profusions lavish'd out on our dressing? some valet de chambre, Player, or Common Woman, shall suppass your bravery when you have born the patience of the nicest accoutrement." "Observe how Fashion has prevail'd against Nature to Perruque all complexions with the fairest hair." "To see a Gallant flutter and buzz with no other wings than his Taylor has imp'd on; to strut like a dancing Mr.; to speak by determined and unaccountable motions and springs, and nothing to be signified without a multi-screwing body; can I look upon him other than a fine articulate engine, a Counterfeit of Man; and we larger ingredients of some Puzzionello? and thus taken to pieces, you see the stuffing and crutches."

Intemperance.—"So low a rate has been set upon the Man, since the fairest part of his character is, that he eats and drinks well and knows good food, nothing better. "What Adepts are those admired to be who can discourse learnedly on a studied dish, can anatomi-
zize it dexterously, show you what contrary qualities meet in its temperament, give you all the criticisms and analize the various Gustoes of meats and liquors? To have the presence of such a Verruose is the best countenance you can give your Treat and your Friends." "Wine for the most part eludes the Guards every man ought to have upon his own breast, and breaks open the locks of all his conclave and cabinet secrets. He is then like a vessel full of leaks."

"Dressing is a Woman's Art of Architecture, and the extraordinary niceness and expenses thereof the curse and disease of too much riches."

"Gaming where we find his Royalties and Mannors parcel'd and rent into a small pack of cards, his money ebbing and flowing with the pace it keeps to the rising and falling Dice . . . Every Ordinary has its Solon and

Lycurgus . . . and from these shall you sometimes meet our Gamesters return, with the countenances of those that had just pass'd a Tryal at Bar."

On *Swearing* it is said: "Our Gallants plead not so much the ventilation of Passion, the explosion only of some fired discontented Spirits by their cursed Oaths. They use them as the Elegancies and figures of speech as necessary as the Ornaments of their dress. They are their supplements unto all parts of discourse and Rhetoric. Oaths . . . can be as ill layd down by our Nobles as their muffs in winter, so frigid and shrivel'd would their converse be without them. They have a way to comprise much of their great minds in this kind of Laconic brevity. Thus Pages, Coachmen, and Watermen with but one round mouth'd ejaculation, and a hand towards their sword, straight know what they mean, and as Spaniels are taught readily execute their pleasure. The same again breath'd with a melting accent, smooth face, and bending body, serves in the quintessences of complements and protests of most obliging friendship and service." "This vice may more decently now also be relinquished as being the familiar of their very Lacquays, the Blazonry of the dregs of the Populace. In births, cloaths, diet, diversions, and the heightning your pleasures; in the melioration of your minds by education and converse, in your hopes, designs, and noble employments, you far outstrip all their enjoyments and attempts: but here they can Rival (I do not say) outvie you in number, volubility, and as lowd volleys of oaths and Execrations."



Haines's "Manual of Monumental Brasses."

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS, 1885-6.

ESSEX.

Barking.

O. 3 has shield.

No. 4 is in South aisle (east).

Fragment, seven boys on floor.

No. 6 has shield.

Chigwell.

No. 3, four shields.



Dagenham.

Urswyk Brass: Nine daughters, five of them with steeple hats, and two with butterfly head-dress in good preservation; but the plate is quite loose, or was so last autumn. I lifted it out of the matrix in order to set it straight previous to rubbing it. It has probably vanished ere now.

Harlow.

Daughter and wife, civil costume, with four sons and five daughters. No inscription on floor in front of lectern.

Daughter and wife, civil costume, with seven sons and four daughters: "Here lyeth Thomas Aylmar gent. and Alys his Wyfe which deceyssyd the xxvijij day | of August Anno dni M^occcc^{xvij}o."

There is a shield which is worn on a cross five roundles imp. a fesse (query charged with . . .), in chief three annulets (query in base . . .): this is all the blazon that can be made out. This shield is part of the Aylmar brass, as above.

The brasses, with the exception of the first, are all on west wall of north transept.

No. 3 has two shields.

No. 7 has three shields.

No. 10 has one shield.

No. 8 is evidently Francis Reve, of Harlow, and wife Joane, daughter of Richard Jocelyn. He ob. 1639, she 1642, and were buried here. (See Morant's *Essex*, under Harlow.)

Hornchurch.

No. 3, man and woman gone.

Inscription to "H [sic] OMPHRY Drywood brother of Thomas Drywood close by ob. 1 June 1595 at 58, he spent 28 years in matrimony with Parnell his wife and had one daur. An."

Fragment, five boys.

No. 8, Pollexfen, two figures, man and woman.

A shield . . . between three plates.

A shield, quarterly: 1, per bend sin . . . and erm. or guttée, a lion ramp; 2, . . . ; 3, three boars pass. in pale; 4, on a bend three fleurs de lis.

Little Ilford.

Nos. 1, 2 on north wall, aisle, in fine preservation.

No. 2 with chrysom.

A third figure of a maid with brass-plate, six English and two Latin lines. Without name or date. She has ruff round neck.

Kelvedon Hatch.

Inscr. to John Wright, 1608, north wall chancel.

No. 2 is on a ledger. In chancel in centre of inscription, which is cut in the stone, is a woman and matrices of another figure and inscription. The inscription (on the ledger) states that Francis had by John Wright, John, Philip, and Francis [sic] a daur. She died 2 Dec. 1653, æt. 44.

Ledger in chancel (cut in stone), Richard Luther 28 feb 1638. Brass: Luther arms (cut in stone), A. L. died A. 1627.

Brass:

Fratres in unum.

Here lies Richard and Anthonie Lvther Esq^{rs} so truely loveing brothers that They lived neare fortie yeares ioynte Howsekeepers together at Miles with Ovt anie accompt betwixt them

Virtus post funera viuit.

Choir: In the middle of an inscription on a ledger is a brass-plate. Ann Wright daur. of Sir Edward Sviard of Flemmins Essex and wife of John Wright patron of this "CHWRCH" 1617. She had 3 sonnes and 4 daughters.

Chancel: Inscr. to Abigail "THVR-KETTLE" daur. of Andrew Hawes late of London, Fishmonger and wife of Robert TVRKETTLE of London Grocer she had by him 5 sons and 6 daurs. and ob. 1656.

Brass shield of arms is Hawes, and not in a lozenge.

Nave: Inscription and shield. Jane daur. of Gilbert Armstrong and wife of Anthonie Luther. s.d. Here again the coat is Armstrong, and not in a lozenge.

Latton.

No. 5, for "Woollaye" read "Wollaye." Inscription replaced, dates left blank save the first two figures (in each case) of the year, viz., 16—. Three shields.

Leigh.

No. 2, only George and Robert are mentioned as placing stone, "and his said two sonns George and Robt. placed thisstone," etc.

No. 3, "John Price . . . and" first "wife Martha." There is a shield.

Inscr. to "Thomas Saman of the age of 70 yeres a man of worthy prayse a ffrend vnto the ffrendles a ffather to this Towne styll redye to | mayntayne good thyng" and evel to throwe downe Granfather | unto Thomas Saman of the age of xiiij yeres who both in one | daye Departed this lyfe here vnder buryed in earth | Resting vntill the comyng of Chryst: A^o 1576 the 5 of August | "

Inscr. to George Ireland, buried here 21 Feb. 1570; had 8 "children."

Inscr. to Robert Salmon borne 1566 ob. 1641. There is a monument with coat to him on north wall (east).

Low Leyton.

No. 1, "Vrsula sū lūce sū Gasperis vnica gnata," etc. By vestry door [date 1493]. See Stow (Strype).

No. 2, by vestry door, plate with figures only.

South aisle (west): Brass-plate partly covered by pews.

Here lyeth the body of |
[S^r Edward Holmeden, Knt.]
Somtime Cittizen and Alder |
To wife Dame Elizabeth and |
sonnes viz Thomas, Thomas, Ed |
fovre daughters, Mary Svs |
w^{ch} S^r Edward died the 4th of | [1616]
See Stow.

3, over vestry door.
4, south wall (east).

North Ockendon.

No. 2, two shields.

No. 3, lost at restoration of church some years ago.

No. 4, four shields, two of which are duplicates.

South Ockendon.

No. 1 [Sir Ingelram Bruyn, lord of the manor, 1400]. There is a shield.

No. 2, shield.

No. 4, shield.

Ongar High.

Inscr. to W^m Tabor, S.T.P., rector 40 yrs. Archdeacon of Essex, 1611.

Roydon.

No. 2, "Sir John Aube" should be Sir John ante [Anle]. Shield remaining.

No. 3, "A Civilian [Colt?]" ? Colt. Two shields, one with crest, a Pegasus leaping or courant. Arms, chev. bet. three ? wolfs' heads er.; 2nd coat, same arms.

No. 4, shield, Stanley imp. Dinn.

Stanford Rivers.

South wall nave: Woman kneeling at prie Dieu, with six sons ditto behind her, Anne wife of W^m Napper and daur. of W^m Shelton, 8 Apl. 1584.

Chancel: Shield, chev. bet. in chf., four annulets, two and two conjoined in fesse and in base; three ditto conjoined in triangle.

Inscr. chancel north: Thomas Greene "sometyme bayle of this towne Mgaret and Mgaret his wy | ves" he ob. 1535 "hath wylled a prest to syng in this church for ye | space of xx yeres for hym his wyves, his chyldren and all xpēn | soul^e and more ouer he hath wylled ā obyte to be kept y^e viii day of | July for y^e terme of xx yeres for y^e soul^e aboue sayd and at every | tyme of y^e sayd obite to be bestowed xx^s of good lawful money | of englād out of y^e which xx^s y^e two churchwardens for y^e time | beyng to haue viijd a pyece to se y^e pformaunce of y^e same |

Inscr. to Katherine wife of Richard Mylcaster parson of the church with whom she lived 50 yrs and ob. 1609.

No. 1, shield, a cross eng., and Chrysom.

Stifford.

No. 3, four shields.

No. 4, three shields.

Stondon Massy.

No. 1, Sarre is without doubt wrong; it should be Carre. He has two wives. In the right-hand corner at bottom is shield of the Merchant Adventurers; in the left, merchant's mark. Over left woman, a shield—a cross, in dexter quarter, a short sword, point upwards. Over right woman, ditto on a chev., six chain links; 2, 2 and 2, each 2 conjoined.

No. 2, effigy of man and woman with shield.

Upminster.

No. 2 is Wayte, date 1542, not 1544.
Jenkin Clarke should be Jenkin Clerke.
No. 3, "by his 2nd w., Alice Ravensworth."
Dele 2nd.

No. 8, "W^m Lathum Esq. (?) Dele (?)
Inscription replaced.

No. 9, "Alice widow of Ralph Lathum,"
should be William Lathum.

Effigy, male, and Latin inscription. John
Stanley Citizen and Goldsmith 1626 and
Sister Anne, children of John Stanley of
West Peckham Kent by Ann dau of W^m
Lathum of Upminster.

Waltham Abbey.

Inscr. to Henry Austen servt. to James
Earle of Carlile and gentleman of his horse
1638.

Floor, north (east-end).

Inscr. to R^d Rampston of Chingford, 1585,
south wall.

No. 2, Thomas Colte, 3 shields, south
wall.

*HERTS.**Bayford.*

North transept. Inscr. and shield (incised
slab).

John Knighton "ultimus ejus nominis,"
1635, æt. 70, and wife Elizth dau. of Stephen
Vaughan, 1631, æt. 58.

At back of canopied monument to Geo.
Knighton, in chancel, north, are two male
figures in armour (?) 1 and 2) with shield.

North Mimms.

No. 7, two shields.

Inscr. to Thomas Hewes, 1587, and wife
Elizth dau. and heir of Sir Griffith Dunne Knt.
1590.

Sawbridgeworth.

No. 1, shields of England with label, and
France and England, quarterly.

No. 2, part of inscr. gone.

No. 3, at extreme west end (south), with
two shields, France and England, quarterly.

No. 7, with shield.

No. 4, three shields.

South transept, six girls and twelve sons,
with shield.

Stanstead Abbots.

No. 1, two shields.
No. 2 is "Trappes" not "Trapper."

Wormley.

No. 1, part of inscr., as also three daurs.
gone.
No. 2, with ten sons.
No. 3, shield.

*MIDDLESEX.**Bromley by Bow.*

Shield by Lecturn [Hy. Topsfield, 1557].

Edgware.

Inscr. to "Syr Rychard Chaüberlayn,"
1532. Chancel, S.

Bow.

Inscr. and two shields, one qtrly. of eight,
the other ditto impaling one. Grace dau. of
John Wylford, late Alderman of London and
wife of John Amcott of the same, Fish-
monger, 1551, south wall.

Edmonton.

1, 2, 3 on west wall.
No. 3, for "Ilbruess (?) read "Ilbruers,"
two shields.

Inscr. to Marye dau. of Geo. and Kath.
Huxley, 1613.

Enfield.

No. V., lost probably during restoration of
church in 1867-8.
No. 1, for "Joyce a dau. and h. [of Sir
Edw.] Charlton, lord Powes," read Jocosa . . .
filia et vna hered^s. Caroli dñi Powes,"
six shields.

Hackney.

1, 3, 4 in north-east vestibule.
No. 2 must be lost; I have made several
unsuccessful endeavours to discover it. There
is an engraving of it with four shields in the
Tyssen MSS. at the Town Hall, Hackney.
In the old yard of St. Augustin's are some
matrices. -

Hadley.

No. 3, two shields.
No. 5, one shield.
No. 7, inscr. partly hidden by pew skirting.
No. 8, "and was lx and x years of age or
thereabout at y^e time of his death."

Kingsbury.

North wall, chancel: Inscr., Susan wife of Thos. Gawan and dau of Thomas Scudamore by Francis Borne 1607.

Inscr. south wall, chancel, Thomas Scudamore 1626—servant to Elzth and James—and 2 wives Susan and Francis.

Islington.

No. 2, two shields.

No. 1, one shield.

*LONDON.**All Hallows, Barking.*

No. 2, inscr. only left, and two circular emblems—one at either end of plate and over it—of (?) the Evangelists.

No. 6, two shields, Merchant Adventurers and Salters' Company, with the chevron reversed, apparently in error.

No. 8, impossible to rub, the surface has been covered with something or other filling in all the incisions; it is now on a pillar in the south aisle, with shield.

No. 9, shield of Brewers' Company.

Inscr. to Margt. wife of Arthur Bassano, 1620, and Camela wife of Hy. Whitton and dau. of A. and M. B. 1622, both on same plate.

Inscr. to Marie wife of John Burnell Citizen and Merchant and dau. of Matt. Brownrigg (wrongly given as Browning in Maskell's *Berkyngechirche*) of Ipswich 1612 æt. 20.

No. 12 (?) Alderman John Croke, 1477, shield enamelled in colour.

No. 13, shield.

Shield quarterly of four on east wall (north).

St. Dunstan's, in West.

No. 2 is said to have vanished, according to a remark in the *Antiquary*, but I think this is not correct. At the east end (south) of the church is a memorial to Margt. Talbot 1620; I had to get a ladder to reach it (in February, 1886). I tapped it with my knuckles, and the sound was certainly not that of stone, it was that of a brass that had been covered with paint, and whatever it is, the surface has been completely overlaid with something which has filled in the incisions. If this is the one referred to, there is a female figure with name and date as above, and

several lines; there are also two stone shields—baron and femme—one on either side.

Gt. St. Helen's.

No. 3, for "hostiarii," read "hostiariorū."

No. 6, this inscr. is on a ledger at foot of a male figure, (?) priest.

South chapel, inscr. verses and shield, Thomas Wight, 1633.

N.A. (west) shield plate, Elzth w. of John Robinson son and heir of John R., late Cit. and Mcht. Taylor of London and Mcht. of Staple of England, and dau. of S^r Richard Rogers of Brianston, Dorset, Knt.

Holy Trinity, Minories.

All the inscr. now remaining is "Constantia Lucy, D. Thomae Lucy Junioris." The figure is all but worn away, only a few lines of shading in the gown and the left foot being visible. Some Goth has cut his name—"Ford"—on the dress.

St. Martin, Ontwiche.

No. 1 is now in Gt. St. Helen's.

St. Olave, Hart Street.

South wall (east), two women, one on each side, with children, scrolls and five shields.

[Sir Richard Haddon, Mercer and Lord Mayor, 1507-1513. One of his wives was Kath. Morland, see Add. MSS. Brit. Mus. 5524, fo. 26b, and Strype (Stow). For many years covered by wainscot.]

Westminster Abbey.

No. 2, shield.

No. 3, five shields.

No. 4, four shields in ambulatory, north.

No. 7, three shields.

Inscr. to Thos. Bilson, Bp. of Winchester, etc., 1615. Ambulatory.

Facing No. 4 are four shields with matrix of figure, which, according to Neale and the Abbey Plan, refer to Sir Hugh Vaughan. Haines (xiii.) appears to give them to Sir Thos. Parry. The confusion having arisen from these two both bearing the same coat.

No. 14, five shields. This is a marginal inscr.

No. 15, inscr. only, and part broken off.

Appendix A, p. 239, Dr. Monk, three shields and marg. inscr.

Hunter, 1793, and shields.

Rt. Hon. John Oswald, 1769, and shield.

Gen. Sir Thos. Wilson, 1849, with wife and shield, both in costume of c. Hen. V. !!

Sir Gilbert Scott, fig. and two shields.

Geo. Edmd. Street, fig. and one shield.

Tottenham.

No. 1, by pulpit.

No. 2, south wall (east) and shield.

No. 3, probably stolen at restoration of church.

Inscr. to Jeffrye Walkdine, Cit. and Skinner, etc., 1599.

(There was a query as to 1 and 2 in the *Antiquary*.)

Mimms, South.

Inscr. to Sophia dau. of Thomas Harrison by Kath. dau. of Sir Thos. Bland of Kippex, Yorks, 1661, and shield.

Inscr. and shield to Hy. Ewer, who married Joane dau. of Randoll Marshe, of Hendon, 1641.

Inscr. to Martha, dau. of Hy. Ewer, son of Thomas; who was also son of Thomas, 1628.

Inscr. of Scriptural text, under which is shield of the Merchants of Elbing.

Shield of Haberdashers' Company.

Inscr. to Richard Keterich, 1621, and Prudence his wife, 1602, dau. of Hy. Dym, of Haidon, Norfolk.

Shield in lozenge quarterly, over all on a bend, three fleurs-de-lis.

Willesden.

No. 4, three shields.

No. 5, two shields.

J. G. BRADFORD.



The Land of Tin.

By HENRY B. WHEATLEY, F.S.A.

(Continued.)

AVING sketched the general features of the duchy, we will take a hasty glance at a few of the most interesting points, starting from the south and ending with the north. The neighbourhood of Liskeard is one of the first places worthy of a visit. To the north

of the town is St. Cleer or St. Clare, called after the celebrated Abbess of the Benedictine Nuns, who afterwards founded the "Poor Clares." Here is her well, and near by the fine cromlech called the Trevethy Stone, which is 14 feet in height. Further on we come to the Great Caradon Copper Mine, and on the wild moor to the remarkable *Cheesewring*, a pile of stones 32 feet in height, of which the biggest are at the top and the smallest at the bottom. Unfortunately the interest of this curious cairn is greatly lessened, because it has been propped up with stones to prevent its toppling over into the stone-quarry, which is undermining it. The Hurlers, a number of upright stones, supposed to represent some men who played a hurling-match on Sunday, are almost passed away, and human hands have assisted nature in their destruction, for the stones on the moor have been taken off by the mason and broken up.

There is a fine walk by the canal from Liskeard to Looe, and a little out of the way is St. Keyne's well, of the wonderful properties of whose water Southey sings in a popular ballad. The husband or wife who first drunk obtained the ascendancy over the other :

I hastened as soon as the wedding was o'er,
And left my good wife in the porch ;
But, i' faith, she had been wiser than I,
For she took a bottle to church.

East and West Looe, joined by a bridge, form a curiously old-fashioned fishing village, where all is irregularity, and straight streets are abhorred. It is a considerable port for mining produce, and is situated at a most romantic spot. A short distance along the coast is a still queerer and quainter place, and that is Polperro, which is a sort of Cornish Clovelly. Fowey (pronounced Foy) is the next place of any importance on the coast. It was once a port of renown, and sent its ships to all nations. At the siege of Calais in 1346-47, it alone sent 47 vessels with 770 marines to that place.

Lostwithiel is prettily situated, and a fine view is obtained from the ruins of Restormel Castle. Near is Boconnoc, the finest seat in Cornwall. It was the headquarters of Charles I. in August and September, 1648, when the Parliamentary army under Lord

Essex capitulated at Fowey. Boconnoc was bought by Thomas Pitt, grandfather of the great Earl of Chatham, and possessor of the celebrated Pitt diamond, after he had sold his jewel to the Regent Duke of Orleans for £135,000. St. Austell will repay a visit, for here is the remarkable Carclaze Mine, all open to the day like a vast quarry. There is no burrowing underground here ; all the work is done in the light of the sun. Here also is found the china clay from which our porcelain is made. The white granite decomposes and loses its felspar, thus forming large beds from which the china clay is taken. It was discovered in Cornwall by W. Cookworthy in the middle of the last century, and now 80,000 tons (worth £240,000) are exported annually.

From St. Austell's Bay we come to Black Head, and further south to Dodman Point. The proverb says :

When Dodman and Ramehead meet ;

and as these two forelands are a considerable distance apart, it passes for an impossibility.

Truro is the capital of West Cornwall, and a flourishing town, upon which the eyes of the world have been centred as the site of the second cathedral built in England since the Reformation. It is the headquarters of the Royal Institution of Cornwall, which possesses a good museum, and it has given birth to several men of note. Samuel Foote was born in a house now occupied by the Red Lion Hotel in Boscawen Street. Lord Vivian the general, Richard Polwhele the historian, Henry Martyn the missionary, and Richard and John Lander the travellers, were also born in the town. At the top of Lemon Street is a column in honour of Richard Lander, which is surmounted by his statue. Down the Truro creek or river, through some beautiful scenery, we soon come to Falmouth, passing on the left bank Tregothnan, Lord Falmouth's seat. Falmouth, or mouth of the river Vale or Fal, possesses one of the largest and safest harbours in England ; but unfortunately it is gradually being destroyed and filled up by detrital matter, deposited by the runnings from the mines.

Here Vale, a lively flood, her nobler name that gives
To Falmouth ; and by whom it famous ever lives,

Whose entrance is from sea, so intricately wound,
Her haven angled so about her harb'rous sound,
That in her quiet bay a hundred ships may ride.

Sir Walter Ralegh, on his return from Guiana, was the first to discover the natural advantages of the place, and to press them on Queen Elizabeth. After this the village thrrove, and was called Pen-y-cwm-cuick. Defoe tells a silly story about the origin of the name, which was corrupted to Penny-come-quick. The most pleasing part to a stranger is Pendennis Castle and the fine bay, where walks and seats are prepared for his comfort.

In the calm south great Falmouth's harbour stands,
Where Vale with sea doth join its peaceful hands ;
'Twixt whom to ships commodious port is shown,
That makes the riches of the world its own.
Falmouth, or Vale, the Briton's chiefest pride,
Glory of them and all the world beside,
In sending round the treasures of her tide.
Killigrew's the lord both of the fort and town :
Speak these the rest, to make them better known.

Thomas Killigrew, the wit at Charles II.'s court, was a member of this family. On one occasion when he was in France, Louis XIV., finding him silent, took him for a fool ; but he soon found out his mistake. In his picture gallery the King pointed out a painting of Christ on the cross ; and on the one side a portrait of himself, and on the other a portrait of the Pope. Killigrew at once remarked, that although he knew that our Saviour was crucified between two thieves, he did not know before who they were.

Penryn is prettily situated at the head of the harbour, and about four miles from it was the celebrated Tolmén or holed stone, which was 33 feet long, 14 feet deep, and 18 feet broad, before it was ruthlessly destroyed. It rested on two other stones, so as to form a crevice through which a man might crawl and it was believed that whoever scrambled through would be cured of rheumatism or any other disease he might have on him at the time.

From Falmouth we can start on our journey to the Lizard, and sail to St. Keverne, passing Rosemullion Head and Nase Point. This saint was once treated with disrespect by the inhabitants, and he denounced a curse on the parish, so that "no metal will run within the sound of St. Keverne bells." From St. Keverne we have a fine coast walk by Coverack Cove ; the gloomy Black Head, re-

markable for the beauty of its serpentine; Kennack Cove; the rocky valley of Poltesco; the grand cliffs at Innis Head; the fishing village of Cadgwith, with the singular pit called the Devil's Fryingpan; the grand cliff called the Balk of Landewednack; Parnvose Cove; the fine headland of Penolver; and the cove of Househole, to the poor village of Lizard Town.

The Lizard district, commencing at the Helford River, has been called the Cornish Chersonesus. It is chiefly remarkable for its large area of serpentine, a beautiful rock which derives its name from its supposed resemblance to the marks and colours of the serpent's skin. When we arrive at the Lizard Point—the *Ocrinum* of Ptolemy, we stand upon the most southern point in England, and a magnificent view of cliffs, rocks, and sea is before us.

Two substantial lighthouses shine out over the troubled sea; but fogs frequently visit the coast, and vessels are often wrecked upon the sunken rocks. There is a tradition that the Lizard people were formerly a very inferior race, and, in fact, went on all-fours, until the crew of a foreign vessel, wrecked on the coast, settled among them and improved the race so much that they are now mostly of good stature.

The coast increases in grandeur and beauty until it culminates in the magnificence of Kynance Cove, "a palace of rocks." Here is Asparagus Island, so called from the quantity of wild asparagus growing among the long grass on the summit. On one side is a crevice called the "Devil's Bellows." The sea rushes up at high tide, and is expelled through this crevice with a sound like a pair of bellows. Second to Kynance in beauty is Mullion Cove, which must be visited at low water. Here is one of the finest caverns in the district, from which a magnificent view can be obtained. From Bellurian Cove, Mullion Island is seen with great effect, and has all the appearance of some huge animal crouching in the sea. The cove itself is a quiet retreat, with fine sands; where on a fine day a delicious bath may be taken, or solitude may be courted:

I see the Deep's untrampled floor
With green and purple sea-weed strown;
I see the waves upon the shore,
Like light dissolved in star-showers thrown;

I sit upon the sands alone;
The lightning of the moon-tide ocean
Is flashing round me. . . .

Gunwalloe Church is a fine weather-beaten structure, built near the sea among the sandbanks. It is said to have been a votive offering from one who had escaped from shipwreck, and vowed he would build a chapel in which the sounds of prayer and praise should blend with the roar of the ocean. At Gunwalloe, Captain Avery, a renowned buccaneer, is reported to have buried several chests of treasure before he left England for the last time. In 1770, Mr. John Knill, Collector of Customs at St. Ives, believing this report, procured a grant of treasure-trove, and spent money in searching for it, but without success.

We end our tour of the Lizard district at Helston, a quiet and well-situated town, which possesses in the "Angel" one of the most comfortable inns in Cornwall. The bowling-green at the end of the principal street is supposed to be on the site of an ancient castle; but the chief point of interest in the neighbourhood is the Loo Pool, the largest piece of water in the county, which is about seven miles in circumference, and is formed by the stream Cober. This is stopped from passing into the sea by Loo Bar, and tradition comes to our aid in explaining how this bar was formed. The demon Tregeagle—a true Cornish spirit, as appears by his name—was set by St. Petroc the task of carrying sacks of sand across the estuary of the Loo, in order to empty them at Porthlevan. The labour was in vain, for the tide carried the sand back as fast as the spirit could remove it; and one day, as he waded across the mouth of the estuary with his bag of sand on his back, a devil came and tripped him up, thereby emptying his bag of sand. The sand destroyed the harbour, and the inhabitants were in a fury; but nothing could be done to remedy the evil, excepting that the priests managed to send Tregeagle to the Land's End, where his task is to sweep the sands from Porthcurnow Cove round Tol-Pedn-Penwith into Manjisal Cove. His wails over his unaccomplished job are still occasionally heard.

During the summer the waters filter through Loo Bar, but in wet seasons they cannot pass

off rapidly enough, and the water often rising 10 feet above its usual level, it is necessary to cut a way through. The corporation then, according to ancient precedent, present the lord of the manor with a leathern purse containing three halfpence, and so request permission to open the bar. A small trench is then cut in the sand, and the waters soon do the rest, sweeping away with violence the whole obstruction into the sea.

We now leave Helston for the Land's End district, and there is little to detain us on our way until we come to Marazion or Market Jew, a place of no interest except as the nearest spot to that beautiful rock, St. Michael's Mount :

St. Michael's Mount who does not know,
That wards the western coast ?

It is joined to the shore by a narrow causeway, which can only be used at low water :

Who knows not Michel's Mount and chaire,
The Pilgrim's holy vault ;
Both land and island twice a day,
Both fort and port of haunt ?

There is an old tradition that St. Michael's Mount was once situated in the midst of a forest, and was called the "White Rock in the Wood." The submarine forest which is known to exist in Mount's Bay seems to give some little corroboration to this view. There is much history and romance connected with the famous "guarded Mount;" but we can only stop to note that it was once inhabited by Cormoran, one of the giants killed by the redoubtable Jack.

A walk of two miles takes us into the streets of the most westerly town in England. Penzance is most charmingly situated on Mount's Bay, and a view is presented to our gaze that we can never forget. The scenery of his native place haunted Sir Humphry Davy through life, for he loved it as a boy, and the delight in nature that it encouraged bore fruit in after years. When young he wrote :

There did I first rejoice that I was born
Amidst the majesty of azure seas,
Surrounded by the everlasting forms
Of mighty rocks, on which alike the waves
And the harsh fury of the storms of heaven
Beat innocent. Eternally allied
Pleasure and hope connected with the scene,
Infix'd its features deeply ; and my mind,
Growing in strength, with livelier zeal
Still looked on nature.

The little fishing village of former times, the town of 3,382 inhabitants in 1801, is now a prosperous and busy place, exhibiting many signs of a high state of civilization. St. John's Hall is a handsome building, occupied by the Geological Society of Cornwall, with its valuable and well-arranged museum, and by the Penzance Library, an institution that does honour to the town. The books are well selected and well arranged, and the room in which they are placed is admirably planned.

The street leading to Marazion is called Market Jew Street, and the name being curious, many suggestions have been made as to its origin. Some scout the idea that it is in any way connected with the Jews ; but it is a very curious fact that all the remains of places where tin was of old smelted in a simple manner are called Jews' houses. It is therefore not impossible that Jews did in some remote period settle in Marazion.*

(To be continued.)



Stanford Churchwarden's Accounts (1552-1602).

BY WALTER HAINES.

(Continued.)

EXTRACTS from succeeding years :	
1553. Recyts :	
It. of ye parisheoners for crowche	
monay or paschull monay	iiij <i>s.</i> viij <i>d.</i>
It. of Thomas Cox of Stanford for ye hire of	
vij of thos shewe ye wiche wer in Robert	
Costerds handds alias Yngram of hautford	
as h ^t apperethe in ye last yere before	ijs. iiiij <i>d.</i>
It. of Rychard hawkyns for grasse in the loot	
mede y ^t belongythe to ye churche .	ijs.
It. of John Wodwarde for an Acre of earabull	
land belongyng to ye churche .	xij <i>d.</i>
It. Richard Greneway delyuuered uppe hys	
fount stocke ye which was .	iijs. iiiij <i>d.</i>

* This name must be pronounced Mārā-zion, for no other rendering is recognised. A lawyer is said to have lost his cause by pronouncing it Mārāzio, as no one knew any such place.

Expens:

Itm. at the byshoppe of Sarum viction at abyndon xx.
 Itm. in expens at Abyndon when the churche goods were caryed to Kyng Edwardes comyssioners xx.
 It. for mendyng ye glasse wyndoos iiiij.
 It. to a glacyer for v foot of glasse & mendyng of olde wyndoos iiijs.
 It. for ij curten Rodds of yron for ye highe alt' xij.
 It. for makynge the grayte bell wheyell vi.
 It. for trussing the myddull bell viijs.
 It. for mendyng ye Steyrs & ladders in ye stepull iiiij.
 It. to ye smyth for makynge iiij stapulls & ij hasps & settynge one a locke upon a cooffer in the churche howse in y^e wiche coofer y^e churche pewtter dothe lye w^t other stuffe iiiij.
 Itm. for ij bell Roops iiijs.
 It. for mendyng a bawdericke for a bell id.
 It. for caryeng ij loads of yarth & one of stone iiiij.
 It. to y^e mason for settynge uppe ye highe alt' ijs.
 It. for greys for the bells ijd.
 It. for a hundredth bushell naylls for y^e bells ijs.
 It. to Thomas myller for schowrryng candull styccks vij.
 It. thryde to mende things w^t all ob
 It. to bottrell for watching ye sepulture iiiij.
 It. in expens goyng abrood to seke for saynys and other of ye churche stuffe y^t was lackyng vid.
 It. for ye pascall & ye founte Taper vs.
 It. for fatching ye sayde lyghts id.
 Itm. for hooly oyle & Chrysme iiiij.
 It. towards ye setting forth of sodyers iijs. iiiij.

1554. Receyts:

It. of ye payshioners for crowche or phascall monay iiijs.
 Itm. of Robert pynell colector for the Rode lyght uppon ye tweluet euyn moste comonly cawlyd ye dawell lyght vi. ijd.
 It. ye encrays of whitson ale xlijs. iiijd.
 It. of henry Snodnam gent for a tabull wt a frame ye whiche serued in ye churche for ye Communion *in the wycked tym of syssme*. vs.
 * Pen struck through these words in the original.

Expens:

It. for wryting ij bylls of Reformacyon to putte uppe at ye same chappiters vijd.
 It. to ye lorde sufferagan of sarum for hallowyng ij chalesses a pyx & ij corporase clothis ijs. viijd.
 It. for fatching v lood of stoons for to make ye alt^rs in ye churche & churche yard mowndds x.
 It. to a mason for ij days worke upon the churche yarde mowndds w^t mayte & drynke xijd.
 It. for seruing the mason ye sayde ij days w^t mayte drynke & waages viijd.
 It. to J Smyth ye mason for makynge an alt' vij.
 It. for seruynge ye masone when he made an other alt^r y^t Thomas whitehorne of goze payed for iiijd.
 It. to hill for dressyng the grayte bell xvijd.
 It. for bordyng the sayd hill & his man ij days whilst he was doyng ye sayde worke xijd.
 It. to a payntt^r for payntting a lyttull Rode xd.
 It. to J. foot for makynge a locke w^t ij keys to sette one ye bowett before ye vicar in ye queyre to putte in the boke y^e weddings christnings & buryengs be wryton in xvd.
 It. in expences to oxfordre to seeke bokes vid.
 It. for halffe a hide of white lethur for ye bells xvid.
 It. to Robert hawkyns for makynge iij bawdrycks and mendyng one vd.
 It. for ij cruetts xvid.
 It. for a payre of sencers vijs. ijd.
 It. to w^m gerat of AbyndonJoyner for a tabernacle for ye moste blessed sacrament of ye alt^r iiijs. iiijd.
 It. for a pyx of pewtt^r iiijs.
 It. for a chrismetory of pewtt^r iiijs.
 It. in expences to abyndon to bye ye sayd stuffe iiijd.
 It. for markyng the churche vessels id.
 It. to hewgh Rychards for mendyng ye sans bell iijs. iiijd.
 It. for a tree of a spytting shulle to dig graues id.
 It. for pytche to blacke the herse ijd. ob
 It. for dressing y^e heyrsse & tryndull xxd.
 It. for a pulle for y^e tryndull iiijd.
 It. for a holly watt^r stocke of latten vs.

It. for whippe corde & sylcke for y^e pyxe
id. ob

It. a locke for a whiche in the Gylde hall
ixd.

It. a boke of Colletts to be sayde for Julius
tercius of y^e name pope ijd.

It. for d/c* nayles to mende the churche
whitche ijd.

It. to y^e smythe for hasps stapulls and gemoys
for the sayd whitche iiijd.

It. for ij cords y^e one for y^e Tryndull and the
other to drawe uppe y^e clothe before y^e
Rode one palme sonday vijd. ob

It. for y^e pascall Tryndull christning taper
and fount Taper agaynst Estr^r vis. ijd.

It. for fatching y^e sayd wax from coxwell id.

It. for Tallow candulls burned in the churche
one christmas day in the mornynge ijd.

1555. *Receyts* :

It. of Robert yat for y^e buryeng of his father^r
John Yat of the ferers y^e whiche John
lyeth in ye way stepping owte of the yle
to saynt Thomas alt^r iiijs.

It. of the sayd Robert for ij bushells of
barlay y^e his father dyd bequeyth to y^e
meyntenanc of ye bells ijs.

It. for ij bushells of wheat & Rye (the whiche
dyde growe to the churche by a forfettur
y^e ys to wytte by the meayns y^e an order
was taken and made by the stuerd &
omage of this lordeshyppe y^e who soo
eu^r he wer y^e dyde plowe & sowe his
landds eny farther then to y^e comon mere-
stones whether h^t were in lenketh o^r brede
he & they y^e soo dyd shulde forfett & loose
the same corne and grayne whatkynde soeu^r
h^t bee o^r hereaft^r may be and the cawsse was
be cause y^e shulde not encroache of the
comon contrary to Ryght & consyens. for
y^e forfettur of whiche corne h^t was agreed
y^e h^t shulde be employed to the use of this
churche y^e solede y^e sayd whayt & Rye
for vjs. vijd.

It. for iiiij bushells of barlay that growyd one
mens lands endds as the whayte & Rye
aforesayd dyd grow vjs.

Expences :

It. to Thomas Cox for iiiij old ban^rs ijs. iiijd.

It. for ij halffe portuses vijs. viijd.

It. for a prosessonall in parchemyn ijs.

It. for an olde manuell in paper xxjd.

It. for ye statute of Rebellyon vjd.

It. for y^e holy oyll & chrisme iiijd.

It. for franginsens ijd.

It. for mendyng the sensers ijd.

It. geuen in exchange w^t owr latten bason to
haue a pewtt^r bason to washe handds at
christnings xxjd.

It. to Edythe Whayne for mendyng cooppes &
vestments vijd.

It. to Robert Queynte for Reping dounye
corne y^e growyde at mens landds endds y^e
wiche was sooyd to farre upon the Comon
vijjd.

1556. *Receyts* :

Itm. of John whitehorne of goze churche-
warden ther for the arrerages of serthen yers
y^e the wer behinde in paying of a serthen
pensyon or dewty to this churche of Stan-
forde, the whiche ys the tenthe peny yerly
bestoyd one the church stepull & bells &
all things belongyng to them xvs.

It. of w^m Secrothe & Robert yardley for olde
tymbr of y^e churche yard gat & of y^e
klocke xvijd.

It. of the maydds upon all hallow day at
nyghte towards the bell Roops ijd.

Expences :

It. in expences at Abyndon of my lorde Car-
dynall pool visitasyon xixd.

It. y^e same tyme for y^e boke of Artycles y^e
wee wer charged & sworne to enquyre of
vd.

It. for wrytting our answer to the sayd Ar-
tickle ijd.

It. to Richard hawkyns for y^e reste of a calfe
y^e was spent at whitson ale ye yer paste
xijd.

It. to John foot for ij bolsters to trusse y^e
bells & yrons to holde the banners iiijd.

It. for a Rope y^e holdds the herse lyght
xvijd.

It. payd for a helse for y^e churche mattoc
id. ob

It. for a prytchell to make & mende the baw-
dricks for the bells iiijd.

It. to Edythe whayne for mendyng the paall
iiijd.

It. to John Smyth y^e mason for paynting ye
watt^r tabulls abowt the churche w^t lyme
iijs. iiijd.

It. for caryeng a bell brasse to Abyndon
jd.

It. in expences to Abyndon to speke for
ymages vijd.

* d/c, half a hundred.

It. for ijij ymages the Rode. Mare. & John xxiijs. iiijd.
 It. for ijij quart's of lyme for the churche vijs.
 It. to John hawkyns of ye mylne for fatching h^t from Crawle* iijs.
 It. to w^m Tyroll for white lyming y^e churche vijs.
 It. for iiij crests for y^e churche yard gat viijd.
 It. to Thomas Stone for propping y^e churche gat jd.
 It. for pytche to blacke y^e yron in y^e quere jd.
 It. for a Shurburne [sic] & naylls for y^e bells iiijd.
 It. for wax candull that wer burned the wensday thursday & fryday before est^r at ye Tenebrees vjd.
 It. for wrytting a byll to Answer serten Articles of Relygyon propounded by my lorde cardynall poole to serten of the clarge & ye Justyces of pax to enquyre uppon xijd.
 It. to a klocke smythe for makynge & mendynge all things y^t wer necessari & lackyng abowt ye klock xiijs. iiijd.
 It. for payntting y^e dyall borde ijs. iiijd.
 It. to hewghe Rychards for a pece of oke to make a wyste for y^e losfe y^t ye klocke stondythe uppon iijs.
 It. to Anthoni for a hundrethe foot of elme bord for y^e klocke loof iiijs.
 It. for viijli of Rope & cord for the klocke ijs. viijd.

1557. *Expenses:*

It. for mending the crosse xijd.
 It. for castyng ijij brasses for the bells iijs. ijd.
 It. for y^e hire of y^e smythes bellos for y^e same busynes xvjd.
 It. for charcools for y^e same bussynes vd.
 It. for ij gyrdulls for y^e vestments vd.
 It. for wax all the yer for the churche xis. ijd.
 It. for sope & greys for the bells ijd.
 It. for Tymb^r for to make the lou^r of y^e churche howse & the workemanshippe of y^e lou^r vijs. iiijd.
 It. for mendyng y^e bellmans bell vjd.
 It. for Rakynge hame ijd.
 It. for wrytting the Churche boke & makynge ye Account iijs. iiijd.
 It. for ijli of wyer for the Klocke ijs.

* Crawley, near Witney, Oxon.

1558. *Receyts:*

It. rec of John Yat Cunstabull for occupyeng the hers light xijd.
 It. of Ryc^d greneway for occupieng the hers lyght for his wyffe ij bz barlay
 It. of John whitehorne senior for occupieng the bells at his wyeffs buryeng ijd.
 It. Rec of Sir John bakon parson of puze* for vij bz of lyme ijs. xjd.
 It. rec of John coxe for buryeng his wyffe in the churche iijs. iiijd.
Expences:
 It. for ijij days worke abowt the bellfre iijs. iiijd.
 It. for ij hooks & Twysts iiijd.
 It. to the klocke smythe for his fee xijd.
 It. for ij^e d prayrs ijd. ob
 It. for Tymb^r & the makynge of the crosse th beryth the Tenebre lyght other wyze cawlyd the Judas light xvijd.
 It. for pyns of yron for y^e sayde lyght iiijd.

1559. *Receyts:*

It. rec towards y^e charges of y^e communion y^e wiche monay before this yere was geuen to meyntayne y^e sepulchre & paschall lyghts iijs. xjd.
 It. recyud for y^e gaynes of y^e mey ale xxix. viijd.
 It. of the legacy of John smythe ij bz barlay.
 It. rec for a qr of mawlte ix. iiijd.
 It. rec for bell Ropps endds vijd.
Expences:
 Imprimis for a lanterne for the Churche xijd.
 It. for makynge a byll & delyuering of h^t at the Quenes vicitasian at Abyndon. ijs. jd.
 It. to y^e wyddow large of Abyndon for makynge wax for the churche the whole yer xiijs. ijd.
 It. y^e expences of the churche wardens with ijij other syde men at y^e Queynes visytacion.
 It. wyne for the comunyon ijd.
 (To be continued.)



The Antiquary's Note-Book.

The Virgin's Date-Stone.—Sir Peter Wyche, in the course of his short relation of the river Nile, makes the following curious statement: "Writing this, I remember a discourse I had with an old man, but a credu-

* Pusey.

ious Christian. As we were eating some of these dates, I was observing that the stone, beaten and drunk in water, was good for women in strong labour to ease their pangs and facilitate their delivery, and that it had on one side the perfect shape of the letter O. The good old man, in great devotion and simplicity, answered me with a story which with him passed for infallible—that the letter O remained upon the stone of a date for a remembrance that our Blessed Lady the Virgin, with her Divine Babe in her arms, resting herself at the foot of a palm-tree, which inclined her branches and offered a cluster of dates to her Creator, Our Lady plucked some of the dates, and, eating them, satisfied with the taste and flavour, cried out in amazement, 'Oh, how sweet they are!' This exclamation engraved the letter O, the first word of her speech, upon the date-stone, which being very hard, better preserved it. I have related this story of more piety and plain devotion than truth and certainty, for the reader's diversion and entertainment; yet not to believe this old wife's fable would be with them scandalous." This remarkable piece of popular superstition has not, I think, so far attracted the notice of the students of folk-lore.—WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

Tarset Castle.—A grass-covered eminence, a few hundred yards north of Tarset Station, on the North British Railway, is pointed out to the visitor as the site of a great border stronghold of olden times—Tarset Castle. It is little spoken of in local history, and there are but few indications of the once famous structure visible at the present time, part of the broad, solid foundation being the only portion of the masonry now traceable. The uneven nature of the ground, however, gives the impression that little more than the turf covers a great deal more, although a large quantity of the stones have been utilized from time to time in the erection of several houses close by, Tarset Hall being among the number. Referring to the ruins of the castle, Mackenzie, in his history of Northumberland, says that "little more than a century ago, the walls rose to a considerable height, but they yearly suffered dilapidation," and, at the time when he wrote, the foundations had been dug up for the purpose of obtaining stone to build a mansion-house. On all

sides, except that facing the north-west, the hill is surrounded by a deep ditch, which, undoubtedly, in former times, when filled with water, formed the principal defence of the castle. On the north side, the hill dips suddenly down to the bed of Tarset Burn, and the landslips, which have already carried away a large portion of the land, are likely, before long, to lay bare a considerable extent of the buried ruins. Even now there is a small piece of masonry exposed to view. Tradition declares that the castle was destroyed by fire about three or four hundred years ago, in one of the many skirmishes between the English and Scotch, of which this border land was often the scene. There is little, however, to confirm this or to guide the antiquarian or historian in estimating its original strength or grandeur, although many interesting tales associated with the place have been handed down from past generations, and among the numerous things spoken of in connection with these, an underground passage figures prominently. The subway is said to have afforded a secret means of communication with a neighbouring castle, on the other side of the North Tyne—Dalley Castle to wit. How this belief originated it is difficult to ascertain, for it is not known that there exists any definite record of such a thing, nor has anyone ever succeeded in unearthing any trace of it. Mackenzie, in his history just referred to, quotes the testimony of Hutchinson, who, alluding to the castle, says: "At each corner have been turrets, and traces of an outer wall appear. Its magnitude, strength, and antiquity have combined to impress the minds of the neighbouring people with a notion of its having been the dreadful habitation of a giant, and it is popularly believed that a subterraneous road is cut out even below the river between this ancient stronghold and Dalley Castle, which is distant about a mile to the south." Quoting further, Mackenzie states: "About a century ago, a vulgar superstition was so quick-sighted as to observe horses and chariots driving between the two old castles at midnight." The direction of Dalley Castle from Tarset appears to be an error, north-west being the correct description. But the credence given to the opinion that a secret passage exists is widespread, and among the

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most steadfast believers in the supposition are many who have spent almost the whole of man's allotted time of three-score years and ten in the neighbourhood, and who declare that from their earliest days they have been accustomed to hear the mysterious subway spoken of. On the other hand, there are not wanting those who ridicule the idea, and obstinately hold an opposite opinion, although ever on the alert to find proof either in favour of or against their belief. Under these circumstances a discovery made recently near the site of the now demolished castle is vested with a peculiar interest, and has already attracted a vast number of interested people to the spot. These Mr. Maughan, who has charge of Tarset Hall during the absence of Mr. Addison, the owner, has endeavoured to the utmost of his power to satisfy by imparting to them the large amount of information he possesses relative to the discovery. After being conducted to a gateway on the north-west of the Hall, and just at the end of a large hay-shed, the visitor is shown what is thought to be a portion of the passage so much spoken of. Whilst excavating here for the purpose of setting up a gate post, Mr. Maughan explains, a large flag was unearthed at about 2 feet below the surface, and on removing it there was exposed to view what appeared to be a well, filled with sand. The removal of this deposit—which, it may be remarked, lay in distinct and well-defined layers—at once put aside the well theory, and led to the belief that the object discovered was nothing less important than the underground passage already mentioned. The sides of the structure are built of carefully dressed stones, of a few inches thick, and behind them is a breadth of rough masonry. The bottom is flagged, and the dimensions of the channel are as follows: Height, 2 feet 6 inches; width, 2 feet 10 inches. The length opened out is about 6 feet; but, should Mr. Addison, to whom intimation of the discovery has been sent, agree to make further search, it is in every way probable that something of importance to the antiquarian world may be found; for the passage, if such it be, undoubtedly extends considerably beyond the part dug out, if not as far as the castle named, in the direction of which it appears to run. Until further investigation, however, the

matter is surrounded with doubt, for many are the arguments and suggestions *pro* and *con*. Some stoutly maintain that the channel opened out has never been used at any time for any other purpose than that of carrying water from the castle to the Tyne. But this contention is somewhat weak in the face of the question it elicits from those on the opposite side; namely, if it was necessary to convey water from the castle, for drainage or any other purpose, why was Tarset Burn overlooked, being in close proximity and in a more convenient situation than the Tyne, which is about three-quarters of a mile distant? Another explanation suggests itself to the observer. The moat, as already said, runs round only a portion of the hill on which the castle once stood, and as the water is shown to have been admitted at the south-east, the outlet would consequently be at the north-west, a line from which point to the river Tyne would almost coincide with the situation of the supposed passage. Is it not possible, then, that the excavators have only opened out what was once used for the purpose of conducting water from the castle moat to the river? And does not the fact of the channel being filled with sand, which undoubtedly has been deposited by a flow of water, bear out the theory? Further investigation will no doubt settle the question, which is at present freely discussed by the inhabitants of the district. Whilst opening out the stonework, a key of peculiar shape was unearthed. It is evidently made of brass, and, besides bearing indications of elaborate carving, there is proof that originally it was fitted with a beautiful handle in the form of a quatre-foil. Its length is about 3 inches, and the head, which is of a most peculiar design, measures about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, by $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. Half of an old flour-mill, of about a foot in diameter, has also been found. The material appears to be freestone, and it bears marks of once having been subject to the influence of fire, being in some parts of a ruddy hue. In the centre is a hole which the pivot, no doubt, once occupied, whilst on the edge there is proof that a handle was formerly attached to the primitive corn-grinding utensil. The discoveries continue to attract many people to the place.

Monopolies.—March, 1585.—A licence

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for ff Francisco Dal Anne stranger and Robert Clerk of London merchant to take and worke oyles out of all maner of cloth made of wooll, to endure for xx yeres.

April, 1588.—A graunt for the making and merchandising of Starche for 7 years granted to Richard yonge of London Esq^r that as he only and non other shal use the same during the sayd terme paying therefore yearlye xlth wth a restraint that he shall not convert anie wheate to the making thereof but the bran of wheate only, the custome and subsidie due for such starch are saved to hir ma^{te} by this graunt. It is also revocable from tyme to tyme at his ma^{te} pleasure. Sub: by m^r Sollicitor Generall.

May, 1588.—A licence grawnted by his ma^{te} for xii yeres unto Raffe Bowes esq^r for the making transporting and selling of plaing cards paying unto hir ma^{te} C m^lk^r yearlye for the same wth the custome to be paied so that in respect of the surrender of a former grawnt thereof made for xii yeres whereof are twoe remaining unexpired p'cured as before.—
From the Pells MSS. in the Record Office.



Antiquarian News.

We have received a copy of the *Parish Magazine of S. George the Martyr, Queen Square*, for January this year, in which appears the first instalment of transcripts from the parish registers. It is intended to publish the old parish registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials from 1706.

At Pompeii the excavators have come upon a fountain decorated with a piece of mosaic of unusually fine workmanship. The fountain is in the form of a niche, on the ceiling of which Venus is represented just at the moment when she issues forth from the sea-shell. A little love-god is also rising from the water, and the goddess holds him by the hand. Beneath this group are a number of Nereids and boys with dolphins. On the shore of the sea two draped female figures are represented: one is standing, the other seated; both make gestures of amazement at the birth of the goddess. Opposite them is another female figure, and a fourth, between them, turns her back to the spectator. The ground of the whole is blue, with a border of shells. It is reported to be the finest fountain mosaic ever discovered. The house in which it was found has not yet been completely excavated.

The first number of the *Bury Magazine*, a promising local monthly, has an article on "Flint-hunting on Bull Hill," in which some general information is given on the palaeolithic and neolithic remains of the north of England.

Mr. William Crossing contributed to the *Western Antiquary* for January some "Tales of the Dartmoor Pixies," gleaned from the peasants on the moor. Such tales seldom find credence now, and are related merely as what "old people used to say."

Mr. Piatti, rummaging a bookstall the other day, lighted upon volume of miscellaneous musical works, including six pieces for the viol d'amore by Attilio Ariosti, a composer who had great success in London shortly before the arrival of Handel.

What is described as a literary event of national importance to China has taken place in Japan. A Chinese official discovered in the latter country a copy of Hwang Kan's *Confucian Analects*, over 1,200 years old, with all the ancient commentator's notes. This work has disappeared in China for 700 or 800 years, and, as the whole history of the present copy is known, the Chinese Government has directed its Minister in Japan to borrow it, in order that a carefully corrected copy may be taken.

Mr. Henry Irving has secured from a gentleman in New York the original receipt-book of the Old Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, from 1834 to 1841. The old volume contains about 300 autographs of celebrated American actors and actresses.

A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says: I bought the other day a volume from the library of the Earl of Westmoreland, profusely annotated, sometimes in verse, sometimes in prose, in the handwriting of two previous Earls—Mildmay Fane, who died in 1666, and Charles Fane, son of Mildmay, who died in 1691. The latter nobleman, writing in 1688, and strongly impressed, as appears from other entries, by the desperate nature of the times in which he lived, notes the following "fateful years" of the century then ending:

1588.—The Spaniards did invade our right.
1648.—Great Charles fell by his subjects' spight.
1658.—The usurper bids us all good-night.
1668.—The Dutch obtained the Chatham fight.
1678.—The Popish plot came into light.
1688.—The Dutch appeared in our sight.
But what shall be in '89
None but the Almighty can divine.

The Shelley estate, near Horsham, including the old cottage in which the poet wrote several of his works, has been purchased by the Aylesbury Dairy Company.

The death is announced of Dr. James Kerr, of Croft House, Crawshawbooth. The deceased gentleman, who was very well known and widely respected

in Rossendale, had been ailing for some time, and had relinquished the active duties of his profession for some years. He was 76 years of age, and had led a very active life. He was also a member of many learned societies, and the author of papers on "Ancient Bloomeries in Lancashire," "Glacial Action in the Forest of Rossendale," "Lead Mining in North-East Lancashire," read before the Manchester Geological Society and published in their *Transactions*, and on the "Etymology of Place Names in the Forest of Rossendale and its connected districts," an extract of which has just been published in pamphlet form. Dr. Kerr was an accomplished geologist and numismatist. He never tired of working for the public good, and was connected in this way with almost every philanthropic movement which occurred as the years went by. Dr. Kerr was local secretary for the Cotton Famine Fund. He was a coadjutor of the late Sir James Kay-Shuttleworth in forming a Mechanics' Institute in Crawshawbooth, and was a member of the Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes.

The widow of the celebrated romantic writer, Renduel, has bequeathed to the Paris Museum the portrait of her husband, painted by the painter-poet, Auguste de Châtillon. This portrait, dated 1836, was done in the same year that Châtillon painted Victor Hugo with his son, François Victor, between his knees, and which obtained so great a success at the Exhibition of Portraits of the Century, in 1883. The portrait of Renduel, scrupulously dressed in the romantic fashion, is a most remarkable work, and has been given a conspicuous position in the museum.

In the vicinity of Thebes, the capital of Boeotia, the remains of the celebrated ancient Temple of the Kabeiroi have just been discovered. The building, of which we have a full description in Pausanias, was found in the course of some excavations which are being carried out by the German Archaeological School of Athens. Besides the remains of this temple, various other important objects have been discovered, including vases, numerous small bulls and goats in bronze and lead; a bronze statuette of one of the female divinities of Kaberides, wearing a crown of ivy leaves, with a mask behind her head, while her son is pouring out wine for her. The various discoveries are of great value, as illustrating some obscure points in the ancient Hellenic mythology.

As is well known, the abbey church of Shrewsbury is only a fragment, the mere nave of the ancient Benedictine church. This church was originally over 300 feet long, and of sufficient grandeur to rank with almost any existing ecclesiastical edifice in the country. The attempt which is now being made to restore it to its original scale is of great importance,

as on its success will no doubt depend the attempt to complete many other magnificent fragments. The architect chosen, Mr. J. L. Pearson, R.A., has wisely determined not to merely slavishly imitate as well as he can what the ancient church is supposed to have been like, but has boldly designed a new crossing and chancel in the spirit of the style in which the now destroyed building is known to have been, although we think it is unfortunate that he should have lessened the scale. The chancel and transepts are for the present much shorter than the original, but it is hoped that before long means may be forthcoming not only to increase them to the desired size, but also to erect a central tower.

The picturesque but damp little parish church of Foxcott, near Maidsmoreton, has been reopened. The condition into which the church had been allowed to get was so deplorable that the restoration had to be of a very extensive character. The nave-roof, which is entirely new, has been copied from the old one, while that of the chancel has been heightened. "A kind of inner bay-window" has been formed at the west end, in which "the bell is hung"—this eccentricity should be noted by campanologists.

It is proposed to establish a quarterly periodical entitled *Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset*, under the joint editorship of two gentlemen (one from each county), assisted by a committee, in whom the property of the journal will be vested. The journal is intended to illustrate and record the history, antiquities, biography, genealogy, philology, natural history, topography, and customs and legends of the two counties. Accurate copies or extracts from MSS. in the Public Record Office, from diocesan, county, municipal, or parish records or documents, church books, Court Rolls, monumental inscriptions, with notes upon local biographies and county bibliography, will be especially welcomed. Mr. Hugh Norris, South Petherton, Somerset, and the Rev. C. H. Mayo, Long Burton Vicarage, Sherborne, Dorset, have consented to act as editors and secretaries, and a committee has been formed.

It is not generally known that, hidden in the recesses of their lumber-rooms, the Liverpool Museum and Art Committee possess a most valuable series of casts of ancient runic crosses, including, it is believed, many of those Manx relics which are now being the subject of study by eminent archaeologists. Some casts are preserved at Castle Rushen, but the collection is not completed, and it is highly desirable that the casts should be made available for examination.

A suggestion for a National "Museum of Christian Archaeology for Great Britain" has been formulated

in the *Times* by Mr. J. Romilly-Allen, F.S.A. In this museum should be preserved not only the illuminated missals and carvings of the Middle Ages, but also casts and photographs of monuments of early Christian art. More than 500 of such monuments, varying in size and design from rude pillars to elaborately carved crosses, are known to exist in the British Islands, many of which are of very ancient date. The Scottish crosses, too, Mr. Romilly-Allen points out, present many unsolved problems in their graven symbols, the solution of which is quite as full of interest in their way as the decipherment of Hittite hieroglyphic inscriptions. A collection of this kind, of sufficiently wide scope, would be of no small educational value in tracing the progress of Christian art, and, it is contended, would be a means of reviving those ornamental arts in which the Celtic metal-worker and illuminator attained so high a pitch of excellence. In connection with this idea it will be remembered that a "Museum of Religions" has been lately projected in Paris, and as the museums of our own country contain so much material already of this nature, the inauguration of a similar collection on this side of the Channel ought not to be a matter of great difficulty. Amongst the antiquities of the Mayer collection there is in Liverpool already the nucleus of a museum of this special character, and these remains might easily be arranged, at small cost, to illustrate the advance of Christian art.

During some recent excavations for a sewer in Oxford Street, Manchester, the workmen unearthed a large volcanic boulder, of some twenty tons weight, probably a glacial visitant from the Lake district. It is intended to be placed in one of the public parks.

Mr. H. Stopes, F.G.S., formerly of Colchester, lately read a paper before the Dulwich Electric Club on the "Antiquity of Man." The paper has just been published in pamphlet form, with a prefatory note by Mr. Stopes, in which he says: "The facts recorded in this paper have a significance which gives me curious satisfaction. I have afforded the scientific world matter for laughter for some years. My turn to laugh is surely and rapidly coming, for man will most certainly be proved to be as old as the Crag. When this happens the ridicule may recoil. I shall be content so long as the truth be found." After alluding at length to the various records, geological, palæolithic, and otherwise, of past ages, Mr. Stopes writes: "Finally, we reach a deposit which is so old that it was formed at the bottom of the North Sea, when it was very much warmer than at present. This is testified by the character of the shells of which it is chiefly composed, and by the varied forms of coral that then abounded. It also has myriads of the teeth of sharks, many of which are bored exactly in the same manner

as the South Sea Islanders do to this day. Mr. Charlesworth first noticed this, and from other minor indications he came to the conclusion that possibly they were traces of man. He was, of course, generally laughed at, as such notions twenty years ago were considered utterly absurd and preposterous. In this deposit, however, the learned geologist, Professor Prestwich, whose great répute was worthily earned by many years' patient investigation of this particular bed, found a sawn bone. Now a sawn bone implies a man and a saw. He believed this connection an impossibility, and so for thirty years that bone was kept safely locked up, and never even mentioned. Then a geological friend of mine found a shell, on which was rudely engraved a human face. Fearing the consequences to orthodoxy if it were proved that man really lived when this deposit was formed, he thought it best to destroy that shell. Luckily he did not. He consulted me, with the result that I obtained possession of it, and it is here to-night. It was taken by him from the face of the red crag cliff at Walton-on-the-Naze, on the Essex coast. This point suffers from very rapid erosion by sea, and the peculiar formation of the cliff giving land springs very great destructive power. As a consequence, a fresh face to the cliff is presented with marked frequency. The species of the shell is *Pectunculus glomeris*, a very common species. I have hundreds of them in my possession. But a carved shell of that period is not only uncommon, it is unique. It is not only the oldest work of art known to the world, but it is the oldest trace of man yet noted, and the first properly registered. Although the *Times* in 1885 gave to a French anthropologist the credit of the first discovery that year of traces of man of nearly similar date in some caves in France, this one was registered four years previously, as I had read a paper on it at the British Association meeting at York in 1881. It is very evident, then, that at the time this shell fell into the water, there were at least two men, one to draw the portrait and one to sit for it. There must also have been some sharp instrument used to cut the shell. The imitative power, though not high, shows design. Man could not have been utterly barbarous and ignorant even then. But this is the earliest light shed on the sands of time. The deposits below this have given us nothing, at least as yet. But deaf mutes can be taught to speak in this our age. These deaf-mute rocks may only be waiting for some other means of communication to be discovered, and they may also speak to us of man, as they do speak of plants and animals. We wait at the door, but we wait knocking."

The curator of the museum at Bury St. Edmunds has reported to the Town Council that a robbery of

coins had taken place during his absence through ill-health. The largest and heaviest pieces, irrespective of value, appeared to have been taken as antiquities. A reward is offered for the recovery of one Roman bronze coin of the Empress Faustina.

Under the Act for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments, another valued relic of the Heptarchy, the Ruthwell Cross, has now been placed under cover in a recess adjoining the parish church of Ruthwell, near Dumfries. This richly-carved cross, which has been well described by Professor Stephens as a "folk-book in stone," contains a portion of an old Saxon poem ascribed to Cynewulf, and dating from the eighth century. Drawings of this cross are given in Gordon's "Itinerarium Septentrionale," in Pennant's Tour, and in the "New Statistical Account," the last being accompanied by a description by Dr. Henry Duncan.



Meetings of Antiquarian Societies.

Archæological and Historic Society of Chester and North Wales.—Special meeting.—January 16.—Paper by Mr. E. P. Loftus Brock, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., on "The Age of the Walls of Chester, with reference to Recent Discoveries." Starting with the proposition that there were Roman walls to the Roman city of Deva, which was a generally accepted starting point, it was supported by the resemblance of the plan of the streets to those of Roman cities and the Roman towns of Great Britain, besides which Deva, being the home for a long period of the 20th Legion and a city of importance, would of necessity not be destitute of the defences common to other Roman cities. A step further might yet be taken by showing that the walls did actually stand on the lines of those of Roman date by two interesting facts. The North Gate of Chester, taken down at the beginning of this century, was known to have had a Roman foundation upon which the modern gate was built. The East Gate, taken down in 1767, had its well-known arches clearly and conclusively of Roman workmanship. Both of these gates being in line with the north and east walls respectively, it was difficult to arrive at any other conclusion than that the gates were built to be passages through the walls. If so, it is more than likely the present walls are on the exact old lines of the ancient ones than that they were only a few feet more or less away from the present positions. This much they might be, but the existence of the gates would not allow them to be more. The retention of the old foundations would be a reason to induce any rebuilders to keep to the old lines rather than to go off them. In other Roman cities, such as Chichester, the Roman foundations had been found under the present walls of mediæval date. He (Mr. Brock) arrived at Birkenhead in August last, having

purposely avoided giving much attention to recent controversy relative to the age of these walls. It was many years since he had read Mr. Roach Smith's well-known paper claiming a Roman date for a great part of them, and his items of evidence were therefore not clearly before him. He had in his hand, however, a paper by a well-known local antiquary and geologist whose interest in and appreciation of ancient work they all admired. It was but fair to say that his remembrance of Mr. Roach Smith's theory was influenced by that paper, and the more since he knew that Mr. Smith did not possess, necessarily, technical knowledge of masonry, nor had he the benefit of local residence. It was with these feelings that he undertook to guide their party during the visit, and to make himself conversant with a subject of such extreme importance. His work of investigation cheerfully rendered to the association speedily led him to the first item of evidence which shook his belief in, at least, one of the statements in the paper referred to. That statement involved the supposed structural impossibility of the Cheshire red sandstone resisting the action of the elements for more than three or four hundred years at the most. At Bebington church he found the well-known tool-marks of Norman date remaining in the external walls in full exposure to the south and west. This stone being so perfect as to show the easily obliterated tool-marks, indicated that there was at least some red sandstone in the county that had resisted the elements for double the time stated. The stone had never been disturbed since its erection, and it was likely to exist perfect for many more hundreds of years. At the adjoining village of Bromborough, in the vicarage grounds, is a collection of ancient red sandstone carvings removed from the old church, demolished shortly after the beginning of the present century. There are several examples of interlaced work of Celtic type testifying to the influences of early Christianity, of a style of design which does not come to us from Augustine. They are doing the unworthy duty of ornamenting the garden as rock work, but the sandstone has not yielded to the influences of the weather, and, like the walling at Bebington, is likely to last for centuries. Projecting pebbles had been alluded to as instances of the great decay of sandstone, but careful observation had convinced him that the masons had left them projecting whenever they met them—a sensible practice continuing to this day. He also instanced the Dee Bridge at Chester, erected in the 14th century (and considering its exposed situation and necessarily humid condition), and the scarped rock of St. John's Hermitage, as other good specimens of well-preserved sandstone. He came to Chester, therefore, with the belief that there was nothing unreasonable in the supposition that the present wall represents the sites of those of Roman date, and also, since obtaining the evidence named, that it was possible to find red sandstone capable of resisting the elements. Turning to the walls of Chester, the first impression on a spectator's mind is that by far the largest portion visible are of mediæval date, with evidences of many repairs. The wall is none too well built; the masonry is for the most part of inferior stone, the work irregular, and the patches where repairs have been effected are frequent. Standing on the north bank and looking at

the north wall, six or more repairs are visible in the space between the more solid base and the parapet. The singular custom of ignoring the natural bed of the stone seemed to have been very general, and the result is that some of the latest executed portions appeared to be the most decayed. The more solid base was, however, the portion which claimed their first attention, and reasonably, since it practically determined the discussion. Mr. Matthews Jones' section (displayed on the screen) showed the construction of the wall at a point where some repairs were being effected at the period of his visit. It would be noticed that the wall was constructed of large ashlar stones laid in courses, solid from face to face except where the upright joints do not touch, and these are filled with percolated earth. The beds of the stones are truly worked, very even and neat, and there is no mortar, except that the rock has been prepared by a layer of mortar laid on it. Looking from this point it seems impossible to detect any signs of this portion of the wall having been double, or of the masonry having such wide joints that "a man could put his arm into them." The description must apply either to the work above or to some portion that he had not seen. The courses were of varying height, and the beds of the stones were laid fairly horizontally, with a tendency to follow the undulating nature of the rock on which the wall was built. There was a chamfered plinth now buried beneath accumulated earth. The stones were neatly worked to a face in front, which is still perfect, but there is no face behind, for the stones end irregularly, some projecting beyond the others. This showed conclusively enough that the inner face was never worked to be seen. It was at the point shown in section backed up on the city side by a bank of earth, which accounted for the uneven nature of the work, and we may conclude that this bank was part of the original construction. Above the plinth of three courses the wall rises to a height of 17 courses of the construction already named. There was then a rounded set-off, and above this a change in the mode of building; based partly on the massive wall of masonry and partly on the earthen bank at the back, with no sort of foundation except what the wall gives, and met by no footings or projecting course on the city side, rose the poorly-built wall which they had seen from a distance. Mark the difference of construction. It had an inner and an outer face of roughly-squared courses, not in all cases laid horizontally, but in most cases laid at random, the space between the two faces being filled with rubble, after the style of all the mediæval walls of Chester. It was built with mortar not once good. It was in and with work of this nature that the repairs visible from a distance had been effected. The construction of the base being so peculiar, it was well to dwell upon it at some length. He was willing to admit that it was unlike any other city wall in England, and its formation made much of the recent discussion very reasonable. The construction adopted must have required forethought and correspondence with the workers of the quarry. The builder must have set out his rod, determining the heights of the varying courses, for while the stones are of equal height to each course they are not the same one course with the other. As set out so must they have

been worked at the quarry; as worked, so must they have been delivered, sorted, and built. Now it was agreed by the greatest number of those who had taken part in recent discussions, that the face stones are of Roman workmanship. Indeed, no other conclusion could be arrived at, for they bear incontestable evidence that they have been fashioned by Roman hands. They have well defined and varying tool-worked patterns, and they had in some cases peculiar lewis holes of no modern form. These are T-shaped, but how used he could not tell. Certainly they could not be hoisted with the lewis now in use. It is in this part of the wall that the extraordinary collection of moulded, inscribed, and sculptured Roman stones has been found—a collection remarkable, not only for its interest, but for the enormous quantity met with in such a small space. These stones were doing duty with the other walling, several of them appearing on the face of proper height with the other courses. Many of the other plain stones bore evidence of some prior use, but their heights accorded with that of the courses in which they were found. We have this evidence—that the builders of the wall had these stones to their hand before commencement, and that they studied their sizes. It might even be that the existence of these stones and others yet to be found regulated the heights of the courses when cut at the quarry for the wall. The evidences of the masonry led him to conclude that the work was leisurely executed and well studied before commencement, the builders commencing, as Sir Henry Dryden has well said, with the Roman sculptured stones. But if they examined the position of the upper wall, the section would show that it was so placed by builders who had but little knowledge of statics, and were very careless of their foundations. The effect of this upper wall was to thrust out the lower one, and it must have done so but for the excellence of the construction of the latter. The lecturer then noticed some objections. There were some who asserted that the base wall had itself been underbuilt to carry it down to the rock, probably when the canal was dug, and that the Roman stones found in the course of excavation in the moat had been used in the necessary underpinning. His reply to this was that the stones in the wall were all uniform, and that their edges showed no signs of any such ill-use as a fall into a moat would entail, and a burial there for perhaps much over a thousand years. Nor was there any difference of colour, as there would infallibly have been, but, what is even more to the point, there was no difference in the general range of the joints in height. It was also said that the upper wall was the older of the two, and that the lower wall, although built of Roman stones, was merely a buttress wall to it. The date of the work was assigned either to the Civil Wars or later, when breaches were made and afterwards repaired by forced labour, Roman stones being dug up from then existing Roman ruins, and the sculptures in cemeteries disturbed by the siege works. This is a long series of objections, and each item had been strenuously insisted upon; but they were capable of being answered with great ease. The lower wall was not a buttress wall, for no mason would build it so. The upper wall could not have been erected first, because it would have had to stand on a sloping bank of

made earth, with a rapid slope down to the edge of the ditch scarped in the solid rock. Would any builder have been rash enough to risk such construction? Was it possible to conceive of such a wall having been built? It would not have lasted the soaking of a single winter. There were, therefore, two structural impossibilities at the outset. Again, if any such work as the lower wall was built during the Civil Wars, or in the time of Queen Anne, was it not reasonable to suppose that there would have been some record? for see what the structure shows us must have been done. The under wall of massive stones may be traced in several other portions of the city. In some places they are several courses in height; in others only a few. All above is walling that bears evidence of having been repaired over and over again. But if the lower courses are really of the date of the Civil Wars or later, it meant that not only was the wall rebuilt from its base upwards then, but that the wall has since again been rebuilt, all but these few remaining courses. Surely such a series of rebuildings was incredible. He had been at some pains to show that the cost of rebuilding the wall from the Northgate to the Phoenix Tower, a distance of 394 feet, omitting the breaches, and supposing the stonework to be available without cost from some older work, would amount to £2,560, and if this comparatively small length were extended, the cost of the whole wall would be simply enormous. He had shown the minute nature of the corporation accounts, and had called for some notice of such heavy expenditure, but without response. He had also taken the cubic contents of stones acknowledged to be Roman in the small length of wall referred to, and found there was sufficient to build a tower as high as that of their cathedral, and 14 feet square solid! Let them see how that affected the statement that the stones were found in some Roman ruins at the time of the siege, or later. Now, under such a theory, such ruins must either have produced sufficient coursed stone to admit of the whole of the walls where we now saw them being erected, or the incredible result must have followed, that in this time of domestic strife the builders were able to measure the heights of each course of the Roman stones then found, order other stones at the quarry to be cut to match them, and on delivery to build in old and new together with face work so exactly alike as to defy observation! Had any such stones been found, and had the builders wanted to use them, they would undoubtedly have built their wall in the more usual way in random courses, which would have enabled each stone as it came to be built up (without any sorting) to make them agree in height. But little reflection was required to show that this finding of Roman stones in any quantity was a fallacy. Two hundred and more years had passed away since the siege of Chester. In that time the city had extended itself in several directions, the old Roman cemeteries and other sites had been built over more or less, and there had been very great disturbance of the soil. He appealed to any resident to tell him if during all these works any large find of Roman stones had been made. Now these breaches made at the siege could be traced in the wall as it existed to-day. We could see differences of masonry, and in these places we lost sight more or less of the base of Roman

stones. With regard to the sculptured stones the following very reasonable objection had been made: It was asked, "How can this wall be of Roman date when we actually find Roman carvings, etc., built up in its thickness as an integral portion of the structure?" This objection rendered it necessary to refer to a new page of archaeological knowledge which has been revealed in recent years. Monsieur de Caumont and Mr. Roach Smith were the first to point out that many of the Roman walls of the cities of Gaul were constructed of masonry that had previously formed part of older ornamental buildings. More recently the same had been noticed in Belgium, and not long since certain bastions were found evidently built at a somewhat later date against the Roman wall of London. Four of these had been more or less examined at distances apart from one another by Mr. J. E. Price, F.S.A., and a few months ago he noticed a fifth. They had in each case Roman sculptures built up as part of the materials, although there are none in the wall itself. The adding of Roman towers to previously existing Roman walls might be noticed at Caerwent, Burgh Castle, Richborough, and doubtless in many other places. Examination of the London and Chester sculptures indicated that they were weathered to some extent, although some were as perfect as if but very few years had elapsed between their execution and their secondary use as mere walling stones. Now what were the probabilities as to these stones? Did they lie in some Roman ruin until discovered by the builders of the wall ages afterwards? He thought their state of preservation forbade the belief. He thought, too, that they could not have been found in such abundance ready to the builder's use if a long time had intervened. They had to admit that they were either used by the Romans themselves, or that they were removed from their original positions by Ethelfleda several centuries afterwards. Of the two he considered the former the more reasonable, for the latter would require us to believe that the Saxons rebuilt the walls in stone, which we know they hardly ever used in military works. The other, on the contrary, enabled us to indicate an easy solution. It was this: In looking at the map of Chester an ordinary observer might soon convince himself that the extent of the present walls was very great, and he might reasonably inquire if their course was likely to represent the original size of the city. His belief was that the existing line represented some increase, considerable even it might be, of the Roman area of the city in later Roman times. Now, at an earlier date, cemeteries would have existed within what is now the line of the walls. What is more reasonable than to suppose that on the extension of the area the Roman sepulchres were demolished, and the stones thus ready at hand on the spot used in the building of the wall? This supposition is supported by the fact that in London, Roman interments have been found in many places which are now well within the area of the Roman wall. In both places, London and Chester alike, the sculptures, the inscriptions, and the moulded stones all point to their having formed portions either of sepulchres or of moderate-sized buildings that may have been so used. Referring to the peculiarity of the walls being built without mortar, he admitted that there was an abundance of ancient British dry

stone walls, put together as fences were built, but no buildings ; but here we had a city wall necessary to be of great strength. He further asked, Was it likely, if the walls had been built during the siege to resist artillery, that they would have been built without mortar ? There was, he submitted, but one conclusion, and that was that the walls were Roman from base to summit so far as the dry masonry was concerned. All the stones were admittedly of Roman date. Had there been one modern stone, that one would have the same effect as a modern coin found among an ancient hoard, or a modern watermark upon the paper of a document purporting to be an ancient record. If the walls were built so late as the time of the siege, was it not a matter of surprise that no stone of the mediæval age had been discovered ? The walls bore all the appearances of the common Roman wall. They were of Roman design, and had been added to at a later period. They were constructed on Roman plans, with all the Roman details worked out as in other places. The work on the stones was the work of Roman masons. Had he not, therefore, the right to assert that they ought to conclude that the unmortared work was Roman work *in situ* ? Mr. Brock concluded by exhibiting a coin of later Roman times (a coin of Julius Constantius), which was found by a workman lying on a top course of one of the Roman stones, which seemed to be in perfect condition, and not to have been much in circulation. Since it was possible that some kind friend had placed it there, he asked the workman whether such a thing was possible ; but when the workman told him where the coin came from, and showed that there was some difficulty in getting at the point, he thought more of it. If no unfair means had been employed, it proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the wall was Roman, and in all probability it had been dropped there by some Roman workman, and had been there since the time of Julius Constantius.—Mr. W. Thompson Watkin expressed regret that it should fall to his lot to venture to assault the Roman theory of the walls. He only wished that he could prove them thoroughly Roman ; in fact, no one would be more delighted to do so than he should, but he must say after many years' study of them that he had come to the conclusion that above ground at least nothing could be found Roman. He thought it would be almost impossible to answer Mr. Brock at great length in the limited time at his disposal, so it would be best, perhaps, to take the subject of the walls under three heads. First of all, what was above ground ? That had been very fully entered into previously, and especially by the Royal Archaeological Institute during their visit to Chester. He might say that he had been in recent correspondence with the heads of the Archaeological Institute, the chief Roman authorities in Britain—Dr. Bruce, Mr. Scarth, and Mr. Ferguson and others—who all adhered to their former opinion, that above ground they could see nothing Roman, in spite of what had been done in the way of explaining them lately. Next, as to the recent excavations. The usual Roman method of making a wall was to have an outside ashlar facing and an inside ashlar facing, with a mass of concrete and grouting between. Sometimes there were rows of tile bonding, but occasionally

there were not. There was generally also a foundation of boulders laid either in clay or in concrete. He had been very wishful that they should obtain some sample of this concrete foundation. On the south side of the city or of the Roman area it was found last March near the north wall of St. Michael's Church. A portion of the foundation of the south wall was met with, with three of these boulders buried in concrete, but there were none of the other characteristics of Roman workmanship in the wall laid bare on the north side of the city. They had certainly on the outside what he might call a dressed face ; but the inside, instead of being as neat as the diagram exhibited that evening showed, was formed very irregularly. There were certainly great spaces between the stones. Seeing that the sculptured stones exhibited that evening were some of the stones taken from the excavation, it was evident that the wall could not be of the regularity represented. The wall was built from the foundation 19 feet high, of stone like those, 8 feet thick. He quite agreed with Mr. Brock that the embankment was quite necessary, and that it was there when the people made the wall, but the question was, who built it ? A wall built 19 feet high, with no mortar, and without the support of the embankment, would in a comparatively short time collapse. Any architect would say that ; certainly the Romans would deem it a disgrace to build a wall like that. When they had an embankment the face was generally dressed ; but here they had nothing of the sort. More than that, look at the material that was used—tombstones. Why, the Roman Governor of Chester, if he had permitted the use of those tombstones for building purposes, would have been liable to severe imprisonment under the Roman laws. Even if the extension of the city was necessary, those tombstones would not be used for that purpose ; the graves would be respected. Tombstones might be laid down flat on their faces, but not built up into a wall. Stress, too, had been laid on the fact that the stones were so close jointed. He did not see that there was any importance to be attached to that ; if they got two large pieces of sandstone, and laid them together under considerable pressure for a short time, they would soon become close-jointed. So in this case : it was the enormous pressure that made the stones close-jointed. Mr. Brock had named some cases on the Continent, but they had every one been disputed as to their Roman origin, chiefly on account of the tombstones being used for their architectural features. He did not know whether Mr. Brock had seen the nature of the wall near where the wonderful cornice alluded to was, but some years ago, when the late Dean made an excavation there, it was found to be a very poor wall behind that cornice, and certainly not a compact mass. The large stones in front, he (the speaker) admitted, were Roman, but they had been put there at some later date. As to what that date was, he believed it to have been 1708, at the time the wall was repaired and "adorned." That very significant word "adorned" occurred in the inscription on Pemberton's Parlour. The reign of Edward I. would appear to have been the great building age in Chester, when the walls were restored to something like their former grandeur. Those who built the walls at that time would find plenty of Roman material lying about, and he had not

the least doubt that they availed themselves fully of it. The wall at the Kaleyards he took to be of that period decidedly, but they would find a trace of Roman concrete beneath that wall. He was very glad that a piece of that concrete foundation had been found recently. He had quite expected something of the sort, but the very presence of that concrete was evidence that the wall above it was not of the same age. He argued that if a number of altars had been found with the tombstones there might have been more reason to conjecture the wall Roman, for Roman altars were desecrated as soon as Christianity was introduced, and they found instances of their being built into the wall at Lymn in Kent, and into another at Caerwent ; and Dr. Bruce had found one built into one of the stations on the Roman wall. But there was not a case known of tombstones being used except in the bastions in London. On the Roman wall there had been in two instances Roman tombstones found used as headstones or in floors ; but those had only been found in ruined buildings which, in the middle ages, had been used by Moss troopers, and were known to be so ; and the probability was that these stones were used at that period. In fact, they might say it was a certainty, for on the floor of one of the buildings was found a large mirror. Several of the tombstones were found mixed with the *débris*, which would not have been the case if the building was as it was when the Romans left it. These stones had evidently been brought there afterwards. Now with regard to the bastions in London, they were not bonded to the main Roman wall. Mr. Price, who excavated them, spoke of them as of fifteenth-century work—that from Tower Hill and that in Camomile Street. Mr. Brock said that five had been found, but the others had not yielded very much ; they were all in a dilapidated condition. With regard to the plinth again, it was said to have been traced all round the walls. That was no feature of Roman work ; it might belong to any age, and if that plinth was destroyed in any siege or any commotion in Chester, anyone would suppose that when it was renewed it would be renewed to match. No one would introduce a different style of architecture into the repairs. Next they came to the wall in Mr. Hughes's yard, where was to be found what he had spoken of as the buttressing wall. He had been represented as saying that the upper portion was older than the portion below ; he had never said anything of the sort. But there was a buttressing wall in Mr. Hughes's yard which was composed of Roman stone, whereas the wall behind was very like the one at the cornices at the Northgate ; it was found to be so when it was laid open. The Roodeye wall he had written much about and spoken much about. He believed it to be no part of the walls whatever—no part of the walls of Chester. It was certainly composed of Roman stone in front, and, as he had said, Roman work would be found behind it. The excavations had revealed the truth of that. Mr. Brock spoke of it as a wall 13 feet thick ; he (Mr. Watkin) believed there was something like 9 feet of wall and 4 feet of concrete. But it was found, with this exception, much further inwards, and it seemed to have been a portion of some building. His remark that it was an abutment to a bridge, which Mr. Brock demurred to, was a tentative one ; and instead of the bridge being

in the direction Mr. Brock pointed out, towards the Roodeye, it was at right angles to that entirely, so as to cross the creek, which, they knew from old maps, existed at that portion of the Roodeye to the end of the sixteenth century. That might have been a later use for it, but he believed that it was originally done to keep up the bank on which stood the Roman villa—which they knew to have existed from the excavations recently made—to keep up the bank, and consequently the villa from slipping forward by a series of landslips, as they found had taken place in other parts of the Roodeye. In fact, between the Watergate and the Water Tower the whole wall fell down from that cause in 1608, and was rebuilt. So that while he had always admitted that those stones were Roman, he believed them to have been used at a later date for that purpose. With regard to the gates, Mr. Brock said that the north gate and the east gate were Roman. There was nothing Roman about their construction, as he had pointed out, and Dr. Stukeley gave an account of them totally different from his sketches. He sketched three arches abreast ; he said it was a single arch ; while all the time it was a double one with one half of it blocked up. They knew that from other sources. Dr. Stukeley totally contradicted his own words. Mr. Brock further urged that the accounts for the repair of the walls ought to be forthcoming ; as well might they ask that the bills of the Twentieth Legion for building the walls should be produced. With regard to the repairs in Queen Anne's reign, he thought the proofs were sufficient. In conclusion, Mr. Watkin claimed that the absence of mortar in the walls proved that they were not Roman.—Sir James Picton said he was placed in rather a peculiar position, for in a paper he had written, and which had appeared in print, he had broached a theory of the origin and object of the Roodeye walls, and had pronounced the mass of masonry on the Roodeye at the foot of the cliff on which the present city wall stands to have been, in his opinion, the original Roman wall of an emporium or wharf of the ancient port, which was at that time in a very flourishing condition. This conclusion had been disputed by Mr. Cox, whose opinions he wished to treat with all the respect due to one who had displayed so much ability in connection with the inquiry into the origin of the walls of Chester, and also in connection with the Castle of Liverpool. Mr. Cox considered the Roodeye structure to have been the redoubt or outwork raised at the time of the siege, 1642-6, in order to defend the fordable part of the river and to cross fire with a battery or fort situated on the site of Brewer's Hall, on the opposite side of the river. He (the speaker) had again carefully considered the question, but he could not see his way to altering the opinion he had already formed that we had here a veritable relic of the Emporium of the Roman City, when the Roodeye was filled with water and formed a noble estuary and port. He would be sorry to dogmatize : no opinion on the subject could have greater authority than strong probability. Absolute certainty was out of the question. Two lines of argument lay open to them—the first was that of historical and documentary evidence ; the second that of the construction and the tangible evidence of the remains. If these two lines converged towards the same point, we are as near certainty as it

is possible to arrive. First then, as to the records and documents. Original records and maps were extremely scarce. There was a great propensity on the part of the authors and historians to copy one from another, which reduced what at first sight appeared a multiplicity of evidence to one single thread. The earliest map of Chester I can find is that by Winceslaus Hollar given in King's Vale Royal. The date was not difficult to ascertain within very narrow limits. He gave a print of Roman altar found in 1653, so that it could not be before that date, and the work was published in 1656, so that it could not be after. Mr. Cox spoke of a map of the time of Queen Elizabeth, which does not give the Roodeye remains. He (the speaker) had not met with any such map, and from what he had seen of maps that were published in the time of Queen Elizabeth there was not the slightest reliance to be placed upon their accuracy. Hollar's map has a view of the city from the west, attached. Both map and view were executed with great beauty, and had all the appearance of accuracy. In the map is shown a platform or terrace running along the outer face of the city about 200 paces long, according to the scale, and returned at each end. The view is anterior to 1642, when the defences were made, and notably it gives St. Thomas's Chapel, 1620. Mr. Cox said, "It does not give the Roodeye Wall, but it gives a sloping bank. The first appearance of any Roodeye Wall in any map on view is the map of Chester, with the outworks copied by Broster." But he (the speaker) maintained that the map in King's Vale Royal distinctly showed a narrow platform 200 paces long, returned at each end on the site of the Roodey masonry. This is also manifest in the perspective view. Mr. Cox called it "a sloping bank." Be this as it might, it could not have formed a portion of the outworks of the Royalist defences thrown up in 1643. The next reference by Mr. Cox was to a map of the city with an account of the siege, published by J. Broster and Son, 1790. It was not contemporary with the date of the siege, but was a compilation; whence derived was not stated. The outlines of the city were much the same as in Hollar's map, with the addition of the earthworks thrown up in 1643 and the fort or battery on the west side of the river, on the site of Brewer's Hall. The descriptions accompanying the map are not contemporary, and would almost lead one to suppose that the writer had not visited the locality. No. 39 was described as "outworks on the hill at the Little Roodeye." So far from being on a hill, the work was at the lowest possible point, at the edge of the then existing water. Turnpikes were described where certainly none existed until long after the alleged date of the map, and it would seem that the writer, finding the platform on the map, and not knowing anything about it, hastily came to the conclusion that it formed part of the fortifications. The map given in Hemingway's History (1831) was simply a facsimile of Broster's, and of no authority whatever. He had carefully examined all the publications upon Chester within his reach, and could find no contemporary evidence of any outwork or fortification having ever existed on the Roodeye. Now let them examine the evidence afforded by the remains themselves. Mr. Cox said, "The remains are eminently consistent

with a fort of the date 1642, and they accord with nothing so well as that." Let them see in what this consistency consisted. The contemporary accounts of the siege state that in 1642 the Common Council determined that special care should be taken for the defence of the city. In accordance therewith the outworks and entrenchments were carried on with so much vigour that in the beginning of 1643, the mud-walls, mounts, bastions, etc., were all completed, and several effective batteries planted. These were all earthworks. Not a word was said about any stone constructions, nor was there the slightest reference to any works at all on the Roodeye. The whole of the constructions were completed in about three months. Now, on the supposition that this masonry on the Roodeye was a fortification thrown up at the time of the siege, we must believe that whilst everywhere else around the city where the only assaults ever came, on the Roodeye, which was free from attack by its situation, and never was besieged at all, it was found necessary to have a solid construction of hewn stone. This stone is not found nearer than six miles from Chester, and is identical with the remains at the Kaleyards, so that we must believe that in the course of three months the stone was quarried, carted six miles through a hostile host, worked into solid square blocks, and built into a rampart 200 yards long, carried down to a depth of 12 feet below the surface, and 8 feet above, and when completed was utterly useless. There was not the slightest appearance of fortification about it. It was simply the breast or retaining wall of a wharf having a frontage to the then estuary, and a return along a creek at the north end. This extent of work, with the difficulty attending the sinking of the foundations on the shore level, would require at least a year—probably two or three—to complete it. The breadth, from the front of the retaining wall to the foot of the city wall, is only 14 feet. The city wall was probably built in the fifteenth century. At all events it was in existence at the time of the siege. What could be done in the way of defence by a narrow strip of land, 14 feet wide, and an exposed front of 200 yards, which could not have resisted attack for an hour, it is difficult to see. Again, Mr. Cox called attention to the valley at Brewer's Hall, and said it was built to protect the ford over the river, and to cross fire with the alleged fortification on the Roodeye. There was no ford here across the river; the ford was beyond the Castle, and considerably more to the southward. The cause of the erection of the fort at Brewer's Hall was to command the estuary, and to repel any attack by water. The fort was merely an earthwork, or sconce, but the object was effected by a point-blank fire across the river, which prevented the assailants creeping round the flank of the Water Tower, and attacking the west wall in front. If anybody would look at the map, a mere glance would show the absurdity of any supposed co-operation from a long wall facing in an entirely different direction; in point of fact, although the city was furiously attacked from the other three sides, no assault was ever made from the Roodeye. There are several interesting corroborations of the existence of an emporium, or wharf, in this locality. I have alluded to the narrowness of this strip of land between the edge

of the breast wall and the foot of the city wall. It would be difficult to find a use to which such a narrow, long strip could have ever been put, but it must be remembered that the west wall of the city is much later in date than any of the others, and was only built after the tidal waters had receded and left the city high and dry. If we regard the structure as the retaining wall of a wharf, with a return along the creek at the north end, we can easily understand that when the wharf became useless, in building the city wall the latter would be advanced as far forward as would be consistent with safety, and so encroach on the original wharf. There is a singular confirmation of this view in the fact that the wharf situated a little more to the east, on the little Roodeye, where the water approaches the land, is termed "The New Wharf," and is so marked on several of the maps. Down to a recent period this new wharf was lined with warehouses, and approached from the city by a gate called the "Ship Gate." The water front had a retaining wall of a similar character to that on the greater Roodeye. These erections were swept away when the city wall was extended, and the land enclosed for building the new gaol. Everything points to the conclusion that the work in question was anterior to the city wall, and corresponds in a remarkable degree with the work at the Kaleyards. Both are of Roman construction, built with large stones, without mortar, of material not found in the neighbourhood, and with tool marks of Roman character still to be seen. In conclusion, he invited careful examination of this ancient relic, believing it to be probably the earliest in date of any of the precious remains of antiquity to be found in the glorious old city.—Mr. De Grey Birch (of the British Museum), speaking with reference to the stone which had been described as mediæval by Mr. Thompson Watkin and those of his following, said that, thanks to the kindness of their Society, he had had the privilege of placing it before the Society of Antiquaries in London. He did so with very great diffidence, but he was glad to tell them that it was accepted there, without the cavil of a single member present, to be, as he had at first stated it to be, of Roman origin. Mr. Watkin had described the figures on that stone as a priest and his acolyte of the thirteenth century. He even went so far as to observe in it a chalice held in the left hand of the larger figure. Those things had now disappeared, for they saw in one of the figures on that stone a Roman matron, clad in the ordinary costume of a provincial lady, holding in her hand, not a cup, but a mirror similar to the Japanese mirrors—she was represented as holding the favourite emblem with which she was generally seen during her lifetime. Mr. Birch further argued from the shape of the stone, and the manner of cutting the figures on its surface, that the stone was of Roman origin.—Mr. Shrubsole said he thought that what Mr. Brock would prefer him to do as a local individual who had, for nearly thirty years, given some attention to the antiquities of the city, was that he should criticize his paper. To do that thoroughly in a quarter of an hour was impossible; he would really require an hour for the purpose. It had been said that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing; that statement required qualification, but he would say that a little local knowledge, and a little archaeological

knowledge, and an excursion ticket to return the next day, were not sufficient to work out the archaeology of the city. Mr. Brock had told them that Dr. Stukeley had come to Chester hundred and fifty years ago, and had seen the old Roman arch of the Eastgate, and no doubt about it. But Stukeley was admittedly not one of the most reliable of witnesses. He merely passed into the city and saw the Roman arch, as he thought, in passing through. But when the sewerage of Chester was begun about forty years ago, they went ten or twelve feet below the present surface, and there they found the Roman pavement, so that the crown of the Roman arch would be just about level with the present street pavement. The structure that Stukeley saw was not a Roman arch—nothing of the kind. All he saw was an old Edwardian arch that had been raised upon the old Roman arch down below. That was one instance, and he would give them another. Antiquarians were sometimes indebted to geologists. Mr. Brock had told them of musket holes which he had seen in the walls. He (Mr. Shrubsole) knew one of the peripatetic guides who also pointed to other marks as bullet holes, but these marks were inside the walls as well. These were occasioned by the pebbles, which were in the sandstone, falling out and leaving a small hole. The wind then got into these pebble holes and worked the sand in them round and round until the hole gradually became the size of an egg, and then the city guides pointed them out to the Americans as bullet marks, and when they became still larger they said they were round shot. With reference to the coin Mr. Brock had spoken about, he had heard of a handful being found in the walls and sold to the Americans at eighteenpence each; but he would not mind letting his hearers into a secret—all the coins were bought in London. This sort of thing went on until a few months ago, when a notice appeared in the local papers cautioning people against buying these coins. Mr. Brock had pointed out to them a twenty feet wall, twelve feet of which were buried in the earth. The Romans were a sensible people, and was it consistent or likely, that after having built a wall they would at once proceed to bank it up with twelve feet of earth? In conclusion, he called attention to the rude character of the wall on the inside, and to the fact of stones falling down from above while the masons were at work there recently, and he said that the interior of the north wall, where opened, instead of being formed of beautifully squared stones as shown in the surveyor's section, was nothing of the kind, but on the contrary it was full of irregularities inside, as might be imagined from the irregular shape of the stones before them. There was no regularity except in the outer face, and the inner face was most irregular, and of the rudest character imaginable.

Society of Antiquaries.—Dec. 1.—Mr. J. Willis-Bund read a report on various archaeological discoveries in South Wales.—Sir E. MacCulloch exhibited an illuminated letter from James I. to the Sultan, with splendid arabesque borders and ornaments.—Mr. H. A. Grueger exhibited a plaster cast of a head found at Constantinople, which there was every reason to believe belonged to the great bronze serpent of Delphi, still preserved at the Turkish capital.—Mr. C. Whitehouse communicated some remarks on the caves of the

Island of Staffa, which he thought were of artificial and not natural formation.

Archæological Institute.—Dec. 1.—Dr. M. W. Taylor read a paper "On some Recent Diggings in Prehistoric Graves in Wynnaad, Southern India." He had this year excavated a number of these barrows and kistvaens, and had found a remarkable identity, even in detail, with British examples. Within the cists, with the remains of the body, were deposited the sepulchral vessels, "food-vessel," and drinking-cup; outside, a quantity of pottery and terra-cotta idols, amongst which the most frequent was the figure of the cow, and the emblem of the cow's horn. Dr. Taylor called attention to the remarkable correspondence between these cow-idols and those which had been found by Dr. Schliemann at Tiryns, Mycenæ, and the fourth city of Troy, which had been referred to the worship of Hera and the cow-goddess Io. He claimed to have shown that these special objects found in Indian graves have their analogues in the archaic cities of Greece, and that the cow-worship of which they are the symbols, surviving in India into far more recent times, is the manifestation of a cult the prototype of which arose on the banks of the Nile.—Mr. Park Harrison read a paper "On the Pre-Norman Remains at Oxford Cathedral."—The Rev. C. R. Manning read some notes on a monument in Hawton Church, Notts, to Sir Robert de Compton, showing the value of such slight evidences as matrices of brasses in determining the age and identification of sepulchral memorials.

Belfast Naturalists' Field Club.—Dec. 20.—Paper by Mr. J. Starkie Gardner, F.G.S., F.L.S., etc., on the basaltic rocks and the associated floras of Antrim and Mull.—The second paper read was by Mr. F. W. Lockwood, descriptive of various ancient canoes found recently in Lough Mourne, and presented by the Water Commissioners to the Museum, as well as some found during the recent dry summer in the County Fermanagh. Of those in the Museum from Lough Mourne, one is a mere fragment, being the spoon-shaped end of an oak canoe. The second is a complete "cot," or flat-bottomed boat, 13 feet long, 2 feet 6 inches wide, and 9 inches deep. It has five holes neatly bored, running longitudinally along the centre of the bottom. These, it is suggested, were to receive the wooden pins of a keel. The third is a regular rowing boat, rather over 13 feet long, 2 feet 9 inches wide, and 9 inches deep, and must have been very shallow and crank. Before it shrank in drying it must have been wider, as is shown by the loose seat or "thwart" now remaining. Like all the others, it was "dug out" of a solid oak trunk. A projecting piece was left in each side of the gunwale, with two holes to take pins through two similar holes in the end of the seats, of which there are two. Similar projections were left with a large hole in each to receive a single large thole-pin (not two, as is usual now). Raised crescent-shaped pieces were also left in the bottom of the boat for the rower's heels to press against. There are two rows of four or five holes bored right through the bottom in a straight line across from side to side, the purpose of which cannot easily be explained. These boats are well worth an inspection by present disciples of the oar. Mr. Lockwood also described a number of canoes found in the County

Fermanagh last summer, from particulars furnished by Thomas Plunket, Esq., M.R.I.A., of Enniskillen. The first, found by Mr. J. A. Pomeroy, at St. Angelo, is a canoe 43 feet 10 inches long, 2 feet 4 inches wide, and 12 inches deep, hollowed out of a single oak trunk (such trees are now very rare). The ends were spoon-shaped (whaleboat-like), and at the stern a seat was left with two depressions on its surface, evidently to afford greater purchase to the steersman whilst using his paddle. There are no traces of seats for the other rowers. The second was found in Upper Lough Erne, between Derryadd and Derrylea, by Mr. Morrison, who sent word to Mr. Plunket. It is nearly 32 feet long, 4 feet wide, and 3 feet deep, and must therefore have been formed out of an oak tree with a stem 16 feet in circumference by over 30 feet high—truly a noble specimen. There was a raised triangular piece on each gunwale, with a notch at one side, into and against which the seat was apparently pressed. The bottom had been patched with a piece of oak 4 feet long and 6 inches wide, neatly inlaid flush with the surface, and secured with wood pins. A third, very like the flat boat in the Museum, was found in the Claddagh River by Mr. James Willis, of Moneen, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, 3 feet wide, by 2 feet deep. The square ends had holes for securing thong or rope through. A somewhat similar one was found by Mrs. Jones's steward at Lisgoole Abbey. Colonel Irvine has also found at Goblusk Point, in Lower Lough Erne, a canoe 55 feet long by 2 feet 3 inches wide. It is understood to have been too much decayed to admit of preservation. This is to be regretted, as its extreme length renders it of peculiar interest.

Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society.

—Dec. 9, 1887.—Mr. W. S. Churchill contributed some observations relative to the Harkirke find of coins in Lancashire, describing in detail a number of the coins found.—Mr. H. T. Crofton read a paper upon "Folk-Moots of Lancashire and Cheshire." He thought the various folk-moots might be classed in descending scale as Shire-moots, Hundred-moots, Tithing-moots, Manor-moots, and Borough-moots. Glancing at the etymological side of the question, he gave the words "moot," "mal," "thing," "borough," "tithing," and "lawday" as terms applied to public open-air assemblies, or the districts which they represented. After describing the holding of courts and assemblies in various parts of Lancashire, he referred to the holding of the Court Leet in Manchester. On examination the earlier history of the Manchester Court Leet, which was presumably the perpetuation of a prehistoric Folk-moot, they were struck at once by the absence of any record as to the exact place where the Court was held. Its last home was in Brown Street, and previous to that in the Old Exchange, which was built in 1729 by the Lord of the Manor, between Market Place and Smithy Door, at the bottom of Market Street. It faced and occupied the open space which up to that time had lain in front of the Old Sessions House, or "Long Room," as it was called in 1751. This spot went by the name of Pennyless Hill, and the Old Exchange was pulled down in 1792, and the site marked by a stone pillar and posts. It was open to conjecture that if Pennyless Hill was not the original place of meeting, it was in the parish churchyard, surrounding the present Cathedral. Before

he applied any tests for such a theory, he thought it would be as well to take a rapid survey of the position and history of the town. Manchester had been somewhat aptly compared to the shape of the letter "E," the top bar representing the River Irk, the down-stroke the River Irwell, with a parallel street called Deansgate, the middle bar being Market Street, and the base being the River Medlock. In or near the lowest angle was the Roman camp or castle, surviving in the names "Campfield" and "Castlefield." Adjoining this there was a Roman town, surviving in the name "Aldport," which may have meant the Old Port or Town, or "alta porta," the high gate. In the upper angle was the parish churchyard and the town proper. It was from nearer to that angle than to the lower angle that the undoubted Roman road to Stockport ran, at right angles from Deansgate, along St. Mary's Gate, past Pennyless Hill, up Market Street to Piccadilly and London Road, and so forward to Stockport. Deansgate was likewise an undoubted Roman road, and ran southwards from the parish churchyard; while northwards from there another Roman road or continuation of Deansgate ran through Strangeways (strong road), through Broughton, past the camp or burk at Camp Street, and so forward to the other burk, now called Bury. The line of Chapel Street, Salford, ending with a ford over the Irwell opposite the Cathedral, also converges towards the upper angle. He was well aware that it was usually held that the town in Roman times was at Aldport, and that it was destroyed by the barbarians, who thereupon founded a new town round the site of the Cathedral. To his mind, however, the entire absence of any trace of a Roman road towards Stockport from Deansgate, or from within perhaps three quarters of a mile from Aldport, constituted a very strong argument against Aldport being more than the place of purely Roman origin, which sprang up after the Romans built a fort there to guard the ford or bridge over the Medlock. The evidence pointed to the pre-Roman Mancunium having been in the upper angle formed by the junction of the Irk and Irwell. That was every whit as good a site as Campfield, and with its rocky scarped sides was a much stronger position for the main castrum and town. It also appeared to him that the semicircular line formed by the old streets named Toad Lane, Hanging Ditch, Cateaton Street, and Smithy Bank preserved the probable direction of a rampart or fosse, which in pre-Roman times may have enclosed the area now chiefly occupied by Chetham's College, the Grammar School, and the Cathedral. The space so enclosed was bisected at right angles by Half Street and Mill Gate running north and south, and by Fennel Street and Back-o'-th'-Church running east and west. The innermost or north-west quarter was called Baron's Hull or Hill, and was occupied by the Manor House, called Baron's Court or Yard, alongside of Hunt's Hull or Bank. The south-west quarter was occupied by the Old Church and churchyard. The semicircular form pointed to an origin with an uncivilized people rather than with the civilized and rectangle-loving Romans. The maintenance of a quarter of the enclosure as an open space may have been due to its use as the Moot Place of the aboriginal Mancunians, and it may have been still so used when Christianity made its appearance, and have commended

itself to the missionaries as the best place-site for their church. Such a reason was far from improbable, for there were innumerable instances of the church and Moot Hill being in close proximity to each other. He then referred to the etymology of the names of the streets, considering that Toad Lane was not unlikely an echo of the word "Toot," or Tithing Lane. If they searched for traces of the word "mall," which was met with in other parts as the equivalent of Folk-moot, they found that the street running southwardly from the church to the Market Place was called in 1552 Melegate, which might be a corruption of Meale Street, or from the fact of meal being for sale in that street.—The Rev. E. F. Letts said he was particularly interested with the description of the names of the streets. Fennel Street he believed to be of exactly the same meaning as funnel, a narrow passage. When he was in Brittany last spring he found a street there in a little old town called "La Venella." With regard to Todd Street, there was a lane in Rochdale in a very similar position, leading down the hill from the church, and that strengthened his belief that it was the boundary of the ancient churchyard, the "Death Lane," or the lane along which the dead were carried. He quite agreed with Mr. Crofton about the antiquity of the Cathedral site. He did not say much about the addition to the town which must have been made during the baronial period of its history to include the court of baron and the Market Place. It seemed to him (Mr. Letts) that there must have been a barbican or outwork running from the Millgate, the corner of the Cathedral gates, as it is called now, running along to the present Exchange, where there was a gate called Acker's Gate. That he found from an old map of Manchester. It was the gate that he thought was wanted to complete the barbican or outwork. The St. Mary Gate would be the next corner of this quadrangular outwork, enclosing the Smithy Door and the Smithy Croft, which was another name which he found. The fourth gate would be the Deansgate, making, he thought, the four gates of the quadrangular outwork.—Mr. C. T. Tallent-Bateman said that Toad Lane was the only place that in his researches he had found to be Crown lands. The land on which this lane stood belonged to the Crown in the reign of James I., being described as part of the Manor of Enfield. Mr. Letts's remarks about Acker's Gate did not show that Ackersgate was an old place.—Mr. Crofton, in reply, said with regard to Fennel Street, there was once an apple market on that spot, and perhaps apples used to be wrapped in fennel leaves. The word "venella" was the Latin term for passage, fennel possibly being the same etymologically. With regard to Toad Lane being the dead lane, he considered that suggestion to be based on very slippery ground. He could not agree that "gate" meant a structure, being simply the old word for the road, meaning the right of passage.—The Rev. S. H. Parkes read a paper upon the astrologers in Lancashire and Cheshire. The most famous of astrologers to whom local claim could be laid was Dr. John Dee, at one time warden of the Chetham College, and perhaps one of the most fantastic and interesting figures that the history of astrology presented. He was born in 1527. Under the reign of Queen Mary, Dee was charged maliciously with seeking to compass her Majesty's death by magic, a charge

of which he was only acquitted after formal trial. Under Elizabeth, on the contrary, he was employed to counterwork the spells of some who, using a waxen doll for their sorcery, had plotted against the "Maiden Queen." It was under the reign and patronage of Elizabeth that Dee's greatest prosperity was attained. He calculated the Queen's nativity, and was even consulted to find a propitious day for her coronation. It was also reported that she sought the advice of Dee as to the possible destinies of wedlock, and that during his residence at Mortlake, where his house still stood, he was honoured on one or two occasions with a short informal visit from the Queen. Dee travelled much in Europe, and at Antwerp published a work upon astrology called *Monas Hygryphica*, of which an interesting copy was to be seen in the Manchester Free Library. He was denounced by the Pope's Nuncio as an impostor, and in consequence was banished from Prague. During the greater part of his continental experiences, the doctor was accompanied by a certain Edward Kelly, a clever but deceitful person, who at one time visited Lancashire and roamed about, now professing to raise the dead by incantations, and at another time to extract communications from their lifeless bodies. Kelly ignominiously ended his career in trying to escape from the prison at Prague, where he had been confined for robbery. After his companion's death, Dr. Dee returned to England, and was at length presented with the wardenship of the Manchester College, being at that time in his sixty-ninth year. It was one of the anomalies of the time that Dee had never received ordination nor "authority to preach the Word." He cared more for astrology and mathematical science than for divinity, and was frequently involved in squabbles with the tenants of the College lands. He was much assailed by one Oliver Carter, a venerable Fellow of the College, who had a particular spite against all alchemists, astrologers, and soothsayers, and Dee in his journal often complained of the old gentleman's "contumacious behaviour." In 1604 the wizard warden quitted Manchester, and retired once more to Mortlake, where he died at the age of eighty-one. Some of the lesser lights of Lancashire and Cheshire astrology were John Booker, born in Manchester, 1603; Richard Kuerden, born at Cuerden, 1622; Henry Crabtree, who for some time in the seventeenth century held the curacy of Todmorden; Charles Leadbetter, born at Orton, near Prescot; and Richard Rollinson, commonly known as "Owd Rollinson," who was a "gaffer" or overseer, at Roe Green, Worsley, in a cottage now inhabited by his descendants, upon whom, however, the prophetic mantle had not fallen.



Reviews.

The Story of Some Famous Books. By Frederick Saunders. (London: Elliot Stock, 1887.) Pp. xii, 208.

This volume of the "Book-Lover's Library," like Mr. Wheatley's *Dedication of Books*, recently issued in the same series, appeals to every class of book-lover.

The series has met with a remarkable reception; but we venture to think that had these two books appeared earlier the success would have been greater, because their more general interest would have led readers by easy progress to the more special books.

The range of books here described is remarkably wide; and the fact that the author has covered so much ground and compressed his "story" in little more than 200 pages speaks of itself for his skill in selection and arrangement. The charm of this book, indeed, probably arises from the excellent survey which it gives the reader; amid much that is familiar to the student of literature there are a few points which have probably escaped his note-book or his memory; the tyro could not have a better companion in his earlier studies of book-history; the cultivated general reader will appreciate it most of all. From Chaucer to Tennyson a capital selection of English books is described; and an occasional excursion into Continental literature infuses a sense of change.

The Character and Times of Thomas Cromwell: a Sixteenth Century Criticism. By Arthur Galton. (Birmingham: Cornish Bros., 1887.) Pp. viii, 11-212.

There is no investigation of unpublished authorities in this book; but all that has been published on the subject has been digested into an essay, which for grip and lucidity will be a welcome exercise for many students engaged in original research. This unpretentious but valuable contribution to a most critical period of our history is dedicated to Matthew Arnold; and this fact, which we had not noticed till we had perused the volume, threw light upon what had seemed to us a lucid and sustained animation of diction somewhat unusual in works which come to the *Antiquary* for review.

Where no new facts are brought forward, but only a criticism, our notice must be brief. But to those who are sceptical as to historical criticism—thinking it premature in view of the enormous amount of research still to be done—to these, we say, read Mr. Galton's essay, if only for relaxation; ample knowledge transmitted through a fresh intelligence seems to transfigure a period which we had thought familiar.

Louise de Keroualle, Duchess of Portsmouth, 1649-1734; or, How the Duke of Richmond gained his Pension. (London: Swan Sonnenschein, Lowrey and Co., 1887.)

The sub-title of this book indicates the probability of popularity, or at least a motive that is independent of it. The work is "compiled from State papers preserved in the archives of the French Foreign Office by H. Forneron;" but it is dedicated to "the ladies of the Primrose League," and to Mr. Henry Labouchere. There is a preface by Mrs. G. M. Crawford, which, though a turgid expression of bias, is perhaps the cleverest part of the book. Those who know the period, and are able to correct the bias under which this work has been produced, will find it interesting and useful. We must add that the book reflects much credit upon the publishers; the numerous portraits of the ladies and favourites of the Court of the Merry Monarch being beautiful examples of modern methods of reproduction.

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